HKUST CIVL Outstanding Alumni Award

Academia Track



Prof. Jack Chin Pang CHENG

MPhil in Civil Engineering and BEng in Civil & Structural Engineering
Associate Head and Professor
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, HKUST

Citation

Prof. Jack Cheng's academic journey began at HKUST, where he developed the intellectual curiosity, global outlook and innovative mindset that would later define his distinguished career. He earned his Bachelor of Engineering in Civil and Structural Engineering with First Class Honours in 2004 and a Master of Philosophy in Civil Engineering in 2005 from HKUST. He subsequently pursued doctoral studies at Stanford University, earning a PhD in Civil Engineering with a minor in Management Science and Engineering. These formative experiences inspired his vision of harnessing emerging technologies to advance the built environment and improve the way cities are designed, constructed and managed.

Following the completion of his doctoral studies, Prof. Cheng returned to his alma mater in 2010 and joined the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as an Assistant Professor. Over the ensuing years, he rose through the academic ranks to become Professor and Associate Head, dedicating himself to excellence in teaching, research and service. His career exemplifies HKUST's spirit of innovation, entrepreneurship and societal impact.

An internationally renowned scholar, Prof Cheng has been at the forefront of research in Building Information Modelling (BIM), Digital Twins, Artificial Intelligence, smart construction, construction robotics, low-carbon buildings, and smart facility management. He has published more than 400 journal and conference papers, authored two influential books, received over 24,000 citations, and has been recognized among the World's Top 2% Scientists. His pioneering research has significantly advanced the digital transformation of the construction industry and contributed to the development of smarter, safer, and more sustainable cities.

The impact of his work extends far beyond academia. His innovations have been adopted by government departments and industry partners to enhance urban infrastructure monitoring, construction management, and sustainable development. His contributions have earned numerous prestigious honors, including the Construction Industry Outstanding Young Person Award, the Young BIMer of the Year Award, two Gold Medals at the International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva, two buildingSMART International Awards, and multiple Best Paper Awards at leading international conferences.

A dedicated educator and mentor, Prof. Cheng has inspired generations of students through pioneering courses in BIM, digital construction and construction information technology. He has nurtured numerous students and researchers who now serve in universities, research institutions and engineering organizations around the world. His commitment to teaching has been recognized through the HKUST School of Engineering Distinguished Teaching Award and Teaching Excellence Award.

Beyond research and education, Prof Cheng has devoted extensive service to the engineering profession and to HKUST. Through leadership roles in the Construction Industry Council, international professional organizations, and the HKUST

Civil and Environmental Engineering Alumni Association, he has played a vital role in advancing industry digitalization, professional development, and engagement within the HKUST community.

In recognition of his outstanding accomplishments in academia and research, pioneering contributions to the digital transformation of the built environment, exemplary leadership within the engineering profession, and unwavering commitment to HKUST and society, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering is proud to present the HKUST CIVL Outstanding Alumni Award to Prof. Jack Cheng.