The University of Kent has launched a five-year fundraising project aimed at generating £1 million to support new scholarship, student exchange and research initiatives involving Hong Kong and China. The portal brings together a range of University programmes and initiatives, provides a focus for links between European and Chinese researchers, and offers students life-changing study and work abroad opportunities.

The Hong Kong and China Portal, which is actively supported by Kent’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Julia M Goodfellow, aims to raise funds to be used in three specific areas:

- To provide scholarships and a hardship fund for Hong Kong and mainland Chinese students coming to Kent.
- To support funding for exchange students on short-term or one year exchanges between Kent and universities in Hong Kong and mainland China.
- To support staff and research interaction between Kent and universities in Hong Kong and mainland China.

www.kent.ac.uk/hkcp
University links with Hong Kong and China

The University is currently strengthening its research and teaching activities in mainland China and Hong Kong, and has recently welcomed both postgraduate and undergraduate students to its Canterbury campus through the European Commission-funded Linking Sino-European Universities through the Europeans Commission fueled Erasmus Mundus Mobility scheme.

As the UK’s European university, Kent is ideally placed to support the strengthening of the Sino-European relationship in line with the EU’s China policy. While China has undergone a dramatic change since it opened to the outside world in 1978, the EU is itself changing in ways that affect China’s own strategic vision of Europe. With its extensive and well-established European links, Kent has a key contribution to make in this arena.

The University currently has over 550 students from China and Hong Kong on campus, studying a variety of courses, from international foundation programmes to PhD level research. In addition, Kent’s students are encouraged to make full use of a wide range of opportunities to visit China and Hong Kong, learn its language and develop an understanding of its culture, business and life in general.

University partners in Hong Kong include the University of Hong Kong; Chinese University of Hong Kong; City University of Hong Kong; and Hong Kong Baptist University. In mainland China the University of Kent has partnerships with China Foreign Affairs University; Renmin University of China; Southwest University of Political Science and Law; Tongji University, Shanghai and the University of International Business and Economics, Beijing.

Hong Kong & China Research connections

New research from the University of Kent’s Brussels centre will study the parallels between European integration and similar moves in China, Hong Kong and Macau. University economist Professor Roger Vickerman, who is Dean of the University of Kent, Brussels, is leading research that will see collaboration between Kent, Hong Kong and Chinese academics and other experts from around the world.

He said: ‘We will explore the parallels between European experiences, such as the reunification of Germany and the eastern enlargements of 2004 and 2007, with the processes of integration now taking place between mainland China and the Hong Kong and Macau special administrative regions as well as within mainland China itself.

Chinese Embassy in London extends scholarship agreement with University

The Chinese Embassy in London has agreed to place two Chinese government scholarships for two undergraduate or postgraduate students from the University of Kent to spend a year in China learning Mandarin and taking academic modules as appropriate.

Jackie Chan Scholarship for Film Studies

The University of Kent, with the support of the Jackie Chan Charitable Foundation, has launched a new scholarship to enable a Hong Kong resident graduate to study for a master’s degree in Film Studies at the University.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

For the past four years Kent has hosted two trainee diplomats from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beijing to take an MA in International Relations at our Canterbury campus.
Staff profile

Yong Yan, School of Engineering and Digital Arts
Yong Yan, Professor of Electronic Instrumentation and his colleagues Peter Lee and Gang Lu in the Department of Engineering and Digital Arts have been awarded £411,147 by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) under the programme of Renewable Energy Technologies. This is part of an international collaborative project with partners from the Universities of Nottingham and Leeds and collaborators from Zhejiang, Xian Jiaotong and Tianjin Universities in China.

The overall support from the EPSRC for the consortium is nearly £900,000. Additionally, power generation organisations, including E.ON, RWE power, Alstom Power and China Datang Corporation, have agreed to provide a total in-kind support of more than £120,000 for the research.

This collaborative project provides a platform for the research groups from both UK and China to tackle the common challenges together.

Steve Liu, Kent Business School
Steve Liu, Professor of Management Science and Computational Mathematics in Kent Business School, has been undertaking collaborative research with the Chinese Academy of Sciences since 2005 in a wide range of subjects in business and management.

As a result, Kent Business School has a joint research and teaching centre with the Institute of Policy and Management, the Centre for Anglo-Chinese Business and Management, an international workshop series in performance and innovation, jointly supervised PhD students, exchange visitors, and many joint research publications. Professor Liu was awarded an Outstanding Overseas Scholar Grant by CAS from 2006 to 2009.

Professor Liu also undertakes research with the Centre for Evaluation Research Performance in China. A large scale collaborative project, Performance Ranking for International Research Institute, with CAS, finished in 2009, and the Centre has organised international assessment for top Chinese universities such as Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2007 and Zhejiang University in 2011.

Kent Business School has a joint research centre in performance management at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, established in 2009. A research project entitled ‘Performance management in the public sector’ has resulted in joint research papers, a workshop, and exchange visitors.

Alumni support for the fundraising project

The University has received two significant donations – including its largest ever gift from a graduate – from members of its Hong Kong Alumni Association. Dr Kennedy Wong, a Hong Kong-based alumnus of Kent Law School, will make a £500k donation over the next five years as part of a major fundraising initiative by the University to develop its legal studies facilities. The donation is the single largest philanthropic alumni gift ever received by the University. Dr Kennedy Wong and Professor Eddy Fong have also established the Hong Kong Alumni Scholarship (see p5).

In another donation, Sir David Akers-Jones, a former Chief Secretary and Acting Governor of Hong Kong, has established a new bursary fund at the University to promote student study and work placements abroad. Sir David, who was a postgraduate humanities student at the University, will donate a total of £20k over the next two years to establish the Sir David Akers-Jones Hong Kong and China Fund.
The University of Kent Alumni (Hong Kong) Association was formally launched in October 2009. The Association will give Kent’s alumni in Hong Kong the opportunity to attend events, including receptions and informal gatherings, and give them access to more networking opportunities. The Association will also assist the work of Kent’s International Development staff in the region, supporting both current and prospective Kent students by allowing alumni to share their experiences of studying in the UK.

The Association was established by an Executive Committee including Professor Eddy Fong (President); Dr Kennedy Wong (Treasurer) and Felix Woo (Secretary), together with a number of other Hong Kong alumni.

**Hong Kong Alumni scholarship**

The Hong Kong Alumni scholarship fund was initially established in 2005 by Eddy Fong and Kennedy Wong in celebration of the University of Kent’s 40th anniversary. Their generosity over the past years has supported these talented students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Scholarships</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Kar Yan April Yeung, BA Politics and International Relations with Italian Mengwei Tu, PhD Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Luyi Mao, MA in International Conflict Analysis Yixisongbao, MSc in Conservation and Rural Development Xiaochen Du, BSc Actuarial Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Han Chen, BSc Actuarial Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Wing Ling Chong, MSc Management Ming Jie Hao, BSc Actuarial Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Meng Di Yang, BSc Actuarial Science Yiu Wing Wilfrid Law, MSc Actuarial Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Man Shun Fu, PhD Microbiology Yi Yang, BSc Actuarial Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Xuan Ren, MPhil Economics Bing Xue, BSc Actuarial Science Ruo Feng Xu, PhD Electronics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Student profile:**

“I have always wanted to study abroad, but I knew the costs would be a huge burden to my family and I didn’t want to trouble them. After being awarded the Hong Kong Alumni Scholarship, finance was no longer a problem. I would like to thank all the alumni that made this possible, because the University of Kent is an excellent academic institution and I am very grateful to be able to study here. I have had the opportunity to listen to the opinions of my Western counterparts, and to share my own, and that has positively affected my perspective of my country.”

**Kar Yan April Yeung**, BA Politics and International Relations with Italian
Alumni

Sir David Akers-Jones
During his long career in the Hong Kong Government, Sir David Akers-Jones served in many important posts in the Government of Hong Kong, including Secretary for the New Territories. He became Acting Governor of Hong Kong from 1986-1987.

In the years leading up to the transfer of sovereignty from the UK to the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in 1997, Akers-Jones was appointed as an Advisor on Hong Kong Issues to the Government of the People’s Republic of China from 1993 to 1997.

Sir David was awarded an honorary degree by the University in 1987.

Madame Fu Ying
Formerly Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to the United Kingdom, Madame Fu was Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs until 2013. She now holds the post of Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People’s Congress. She has a long-standing link with the University of Kent, having received an MA in International Relations in 1986.

Madame Fu was awarded an honorary degree by the University in 2008.

Professor Eddy Fong
Professor Eddy Fong is the President of the University of Kent Hong Kong Alumni Association. He is also the Council Chairman of the Open University of Hong Kong and is a Non-Executive Director of the Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation.

He was appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 1996 and was awarded a Gold Bauhinia Star in 2008 by the Hong Kong government. The University’s connection with Professor Fong dates back to 1966, when he became Kent’s first undergraduate student from Hong Kong.

Professor Fong graduated from the University of Kent in 1969 with a degree in Accounting and was awarded an honorary degree in 1997.

Dr Kennedy Wong
Dr Kennedy Wong graduated from the University of Kent in 1984, with a degree in Law. He was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Hong Kong in 1988, before becoming a China-appointed Attesting Officer appointed by the Ministry of Justice of the People’s Republic of China. Dr Wong is a director of the China Law Society, and co-founder and President of the Hong Kong Young Legal Professionals Association. He serves on a number of public bodies and is director of a number of listed and substantial private companies.

Kennedy was awarded an honorary degree by the University in 2007.
The University has established a Board of alumni and friends, chaired by Dr William Lo, to help us to meet our ambitious target, and to provide support and advice to the University regarding its activities in Hong Kong and China. This Board sits alongside our HK Alumni Association Executive Committee and we are deeply grateful to them all for their support.

**Dr William Lo (Chair)**  
Biochemistry 80-83  
Dr Lo is Vice Chairman of South China Media Group and the Founder and Chairman of Strategenes Ltd. He serves on a number of public-sector and private-sector committees and is an Adjunct Professor of The School of Business of Hong Kong Baptist University and the Faculty of Business at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. In 1996, Dr. Lo was selected as a “Global Leader for Tomorrow” by World Economic Forum and in 1999, he was appointed as a Justice of the Peace (JP) of Hong Kong by the Government.

**Sir David Akers Jones**  
Humanities 66-67  

**Richard Burton**  
Mathematics (Statistics) 80-83  

**Sammy Lo**  
(parent of a current Kent student)  

**Vivian Wong**  
(parent of a current Kent student)  

**Felix Woo**  
Management Science with Computing 83-86

Above: Sir David Akers-Jones, Dr Kennedy Wong and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Julia M Goodfellow
To find out more about the Hong Kong and China Portal or to make a gift to the project, visit www.kent.ac.uk/hkcp or email giving@kent.ac.uk