

Research Grants Council to present public lecture on China Manned Space Program and Aerospace Engineering on December 2

The following is issued on behalf of the University Grants Committee:

In conjunction with the "China Manned Space Exhibition" at the Hong Kong Science Museum, the Research Grants Council (RGC) will hold a public lecture on the China Manned Space Program and Aerospace Engineering at the Hong Kong Science Museum on December 2 (Saturday). All are welcome.

The RGC has invited Associate Professor of the Department of Earth Sciences and Department of Physics of the University of Hong Kong Dr Lee Man-hoi, and Associate Professor of the Department of Science and Environmental Studies of the Education University of Hong Kong Dr Chan Man-ho, to introduce China's Tianwen Planetary Exploration Program and space-based observation plans. Details are as follows:

Time: 10am – noon

Venue: Lecture Hall, 1/F, Hong Kong Science Museum

Language: Cantonese

Admission: Free (seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis)

Members of the public can also watch a live broadcast of the lecture through the Facebook page (www.facebook.com/hkscm) or the YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/user/hksciencemuseum) of the Hong Kong Science Museum.

First session: China's Tianwen Planetary Exploration Program

China's first planetary exploration mission, Tianwen-1, was launched in 2020, and its Zhurong Mars Rover was successfully deployed on Mars in 2021. Dr Lee will discuss current and future missions in China's Tianwen Planetary Exploration Program in the context of the history of planetary exploration and key open questions about the solar system.

Second session: Space-based telescope observations and particle experiments in the new era

Modern astronomical and space observations have entered a new era. Many observations and experiments have already changed from ground-based to space-based in order to reduce the noise generated by the atmosphere and human activities, which can greatly enhance the quality of data obtained. In addition, analysing particles in space can help the public understand the mystery of the universe and the origin of life. Dr Chan will introduce the current and future space-based observations planned by China and other

countries. He will also discuss how these space-based observations can answer unsolved physics and cosmological questions.

The RGC has been regularly organising public lectures since 2009, featuring various distinguished scholars as speakers. These lectures aim to promote research knowledge of Hong Kong's tertiary institutions and to raise public awareness of the significance and value of local research work.

For enquiries, please call 2524 3987 or visit the University Grants Committee webpage (www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/about/events/lectures/lectures.html). In addition, members of the public can register for the RGC's email subscription service at www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/about/subscribe to receive regular updates.