Chi WU

Department of Chemistry



Chi Wu has been at the cutting edge of science research since his undergraduate studies. After receiving his bachelor degree in the early 1980s from the China University of Science and Technology, a key research institution renowned for its advanced programmes, he gained a PhD from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He joined CUHK in 1992 after working for six years as a Research Associate at Stony Brook and a laboratory supervisor at BASF in Germany. A Professor in the Department of Chemistry since 1999 and now also Supervisor of the Polymer and Colloid Laboratory, Professor Wu has set out to 'design and execute decisive experiments to answer important physical chemistry questions of macromolecules and colloids'.

Professor Wu's research interests focus on the design, synthesis and assembly of functional macromolecules, the dynamics and interaction of macromolecules in solution, the development of non-viral vectors for molecular medicines, the structures and dynamics of polymer gel networks, and the characteristics of special intractable polymers.

Professor Wu has been awarded 16 major and 12 minor research grants for projects on topics ranging from laser light refraction to the folding of individual copolymer chains. He is also the joint holder of patents granted in Hong Kong, mainland China and the United States for a novel gel composition and its uses. In 1999 Professor Wu was elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society, an honour usually reserved for physicists but fitting recognition of his contributions to physical chemistry. In 2003 he was elected an Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He is also the recipient of a State Natural Science Award (Class II) and a Croucher Senior Research Fellowship (2001–2002).