

Biography of Professor Edmond Ko



Edmond Ko is Director of the Center for Engineering Education Innovation and Adjunct Professor of Chemical Engineering at The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). Prior to that, he served as Vice-President (Undergraduate Education), Dean of Students, and Professor (Chair) of Chemistry at City University of Hong Kong (CityU), and as the Vice Provost for Education and Professor of Chemical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. Professor Ko received his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Stanford University. He worked as a Research Fellow at the Corporate Research Laboratory of Exxon (1975-76) and held visiting and guest faculty appointments at the University of California, Berkeley (1987-88), the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (1995), California Institute of Technology (1996) and Tianjin University (since 2002).

Besides being the co-author of over 100 publications and co-inventor of one U.S. patent in the area of surface science and catalysis, Professor Ko is an accomplished educator. He has received nine teaching awards in his career, including the William H. and Frances S. Ryan Teaching Award at Carnegie Mellon, the Chemical Manufacturers Association National Catalyst Award, the W. M. Keck Foundation Engineering Teaching Excellence Award, the W. E. Wickenden Award of the American Society for Engineering Education, and the School of Engineering Teaching Award at HKUST.

Professor Ko has nine years of academic administrative experience, with the first two at Carnegie Mellon and the last seven at CityU. As the key person charged to improve education at these two institutions, he has directed activities in student recruitment and admissions, student development, student residence, curriculum design, quality assurance, and faculty development. He is particularly interested in developing an outcome-based approach to enhance student learning.

Serving as Chairman of the Curriculum Development Council and a member of the Quality Assurance Council of the University Grants Committee, Education Commission, and Advisory Committee on Teacher Education and Qualifications of the HKSAR Government, Professor Ko is deeply involved in the formulation and implementation of education policies in Hong Kong at all levels. He is also a council member of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications and Hong Kong Institute of Education.

As someone who has spent about half of his life living and working in the US and the other half in Hong Kong, Professor Ko is keenly aware of the importance of being able to work comfortably and effectively across cultures. He has created many cross-cultural learning experiences for CityU and HKUST students, including conducting workshops on intercultural communication himself. He has also published 7 books and numerous articles on a wide range of educational issues in both English and Chinese since returning to Hong Kong in 1998.