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CUHK's Vice-Chancellor Elected Member of  
US National Academy of Engineering

Professor Charles K Kao, the Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, has recently been elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering, United States.

The National Academy of Engineering is a private, honorary organization established in 1964. With the National Academy of Sciences, it advises the US federal government on questions of science and technology through the National Research Council. The Academy also recognises distinguished engineers, sponsors engineering programmes aimed at meeting national needs, and encourages education and research.

Election to the Academy is among the highest professional distinctions accorded an engineer. With a current US membership of 1,535 and 126 foreign associates, the Academy honours only those who have made "important contributions to engineering theory and practice", or those who have demonstrated "unusual accomplishment in new and developing fields of technology".

Professor Kao is famed for his pioneering work on optical fibers. His subsequent research has helped reshape the whole of the world's telecommunication networks, optical fibers now dominate all new telecommunication system installation.

Over the years, Professor Kao has received numerous prestigious international awards for his outstanding achievements, including the 1989 Faraday Medal awarded by IEE, the L M Ericsson International Prize presented by His Majesty King Carl Gustav of Sweden, the IEEE Alexander Graham Bell Medal, the Eleventh Marconi International Fellowship, Membership of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, and The Fellowship of Engineering, United Kingdom (FEng).

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