

[Gifted Programme]

C3STM001T & C3STM001C

(Non-token required/Token-required)

STEAM Talk (Level III): Gifted Young Researcher Programme: Road of Local Research – Bean Trek (C3STM001T)

STEAM Course (Level III): Gifted Young Researcher Programme: Scientific Research Summer Camp (C3STM001C)

Professor Lam Hon Ming (Soyvestors Co. Limited)

*Named the World's Top 2% most-cited scientists in the field of Plant Biology and Botany by Stanford University, Prof. Lam is recognized globally as a worldwide leader in the field especially with his ground-breaking soybean genomic research. He pioneered in demonstrating how state-of-the-art genomic and genetic sciences could be used to mine the treasure entrapped in the soybean seed resources. This programme is designed by Prof. Lam to translate university-level research into inspiration for secondary students.



Application Deadline

C3STM001T

until it's full

C3STM001C

22 Jun 2026, 12:00 noon

Result Release

C3STM001T: Auto Offer

C3STM001C: 30 Jun 2026

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the gifted programme (C3STM001T), gifted students should be able to:

1. Describe the key concepts, principles and techniques involved in the research and how it connects with humanitarian concerns;
2. Develop and integrate scientific inquiry skills with a sense of humanistic concern, fostering ongoing awareness of diverse social issues.

Upon completion of the gifted programme (C3STM001C), gifted students should be able to:

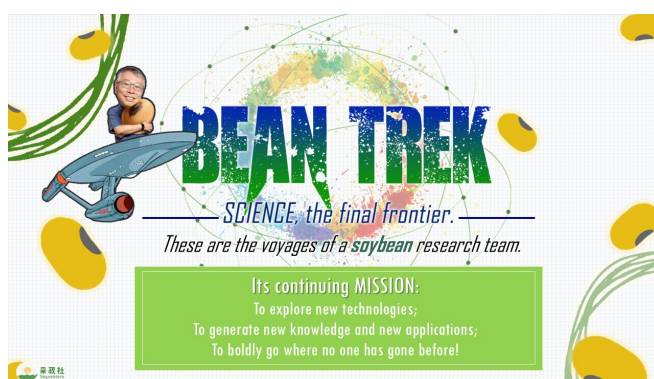
1. Improve students' scientific investigation, problem solving, data analysis and experimental design skills through theory-practice integration;
2. Strengthen students' understanding of soybean as both a sustainable food resource and a model for agricultural biotechnology;
3. Enable students to connect phenotype, genotype and gene function through a real-life soybean salt-tolerance case study;
4. Enhance collaboration, communication and evidence-based presentation skills through group challenges and final sharing;
5. Nurture students' awareness of nutrition, food security, food culture and sustainable development through an applied soybean-centred learning experience.

◆ Gifted Programme Introduction

The **Gifted Young Researcher Programme** is designed as a structured and progressive learning pathway that enables gifted students with aspiration to become a scientific researcher to be groomed and prepared. More importantly, participants will embark on a journey to peruse the nexus between scientific research and societal wellbeing – how scientific research and advancement can bring about positive changes in the society and the world.

In the **2025/26 school year**, the Programme will introduce the following two **pilot activities**:

(1) **Road of Local Research – Bean Trek (C3STM001T):**



In this lecture, **Prof. Lam Hon Ming** will share his exceptional voyage with deep concern for humanity.

For over 29 years, Prof. Lam and his team of soybean researchers have taken the scientific journey with a mission *“to explore new technologies, to generate new knowledge and new applications and boldly go where no one has gone before!”*

Under the “Soybean Homecoming” Project, they achieved the world’s first whole-genome analysis of wild soybeans and identified a major salt-tolerance gene. By integrating lab science with traditional breeding, his team successfully developed 6 stress-tolerant soybean varieties cultivated on over 1.5 million mu of marginal farmland in arid, impoverished Northwest China. Their work has replenished soil nitrogen, reduced CO₂ emissions by over 100,000 tons, generated more than RMB120 million extra income for under-privileged farmers.

In recent years, Prof. Lam has expanded his realm of soybean research to Pakistan, South Africa, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and beyond, transforming the lives of many more smallholder farmers. From Hong Kong to the Chinese Mainland, the world, and even space, Prof. Lam has sent rhizobia and soybean seeds to space three times as a key step in advancing his soybean research.

(2) **Scientific Research Summer Camp (C3STM001C): Intensive “Hands-on” and “Brains-on” Experience**

Designed and facilitated by Prof. Lam, this **immersive 3-day-2-night summer camp** presents intellectually stimulating challenges with ramifications for nutrition, food security, sustainability, biotechnology, and associated societal issues. **Participants must be ready for both hands-on experimentation and brains-on critical thinking.**

Beyond rigorous scientific enquiry, the camp also incorporates reflective and interactive elements, offering students opportunities to learn about Prof. Lam’s personal struggles—his aspirations, motivations, challenges and how he tackles and overcomes them. These encounters aim to help students explore their own interest in research and demystify the research career pathway.

◆ Schedule

Road of Local Research (C3STM001T)			
Session	Date	Time	Venue
1	29 May 2026 (Fri)	5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	LT5 of Yasumoto International Academic Park (2/F) The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Scientific Research Summer Camp (C3STM001C)			
Day	Date	Time	Venue
1	12 Jul 2026 (Fri)	1:00 p.m. Check-in	Student Hostel, Laboratory & Seminar Room at The Chinese University of Hong Kong
2	13 Jul 2026 (Sat)	Full day Activity	
3	14 Jul 2026 (Sun)	1:00 p.m. Check-out	

Apply for C3STM001C (Click here)

◆ Suitable for

- S1 to S6 HKAGE student members in 2025/26 school year
- Class size:
C3STM001T
- 100 (first-come, first-served)
C3STM001C
- 25 (A higher priority will be given to students who attended C3STM001T)

◆ Medium of Instruction

Cantonese with Chinese/English Handout

◆ Certificate

C3STM001T

E-Certificate will be awarded to gifted students who have attended the talk.

C3STM001C

E-Certificate will be awarded to gifted students who have:

- attended all sessions; and
- completed all the assessments with satisfactory performance

◆ Screening Criteria

C3STM001T: First-come, first-served

C3STM001C: Please answer the screening question in the online application form.

*The screening question is designed to help the applicant understand the course level and the course content. The question must be answered by the student applicant and it can only be attempted once. The answer cannot be changed once the application is submitted. Selection is based on students' performance in answering the question. Only students who can demonstrate motivation and the knowledge of scientific research, biotechnology in the screening question can be enrolled in the programme.

◆ Summer Camp Details

Accommodation:

- Participants will stay in student hostels at CUHK.
- Rooms are typically in twin rooms, depending on actual availability.

Catering:

- Meals will be arranged by the teaching team. Further details will be announced after the selection list is confirmed.