

# CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our Ph.D. graduate **Dr. XU Xiayi** on receiving the **CUHK Young Scholars Thesis Award 2020** for her doctoral thesis *“Bio-inspired Adhesive Biomaterials for Gastrointestinal Disorders”*. The award is offered by the Graduate School of CUHK to recognize the outstanding doctoral thesis written by research doctoral graduates.



## Dr. XU Xiayi

*Graduated in Ph.D. of Biomedical Engineering in 2020*



It has been a year since I graduated as a Ph. D. from BME of CUHK, but I still remember the feeling that suddenly people started to call me “Dr. Xu” but I didn’t realize it was actually calling me for the first several times.

I would have to say that pursuing a Ph.D. degree must be the hardest challenge ever happened during my 26-year life. The hardest thing always teaches us the most. Looking back, I failed many times in doing even very simple experiments, but tried again more times to finally succeed; I started many projects that didn’t work out in the end but learnt more about how to think like a scientist and to build up my own research frame. I felt anxious and doubted myself constantly but encouraged and motivated myself more times to face failures and feel confident, to gradually find my way of balancing life and research, and to follow my own time zone.

During this unforgettable academic journey, I’m not alone. I feel so grateful and lucky to meet so many brilliant people here in CUHK. Without the inspiring guidance and tremendous teaching of my supervisor Prof. Bian Liming, without the warm accompany and generous help from my labmates and Ph. D. friends from other fields, without the strong support and care from BME department, I cannot accomplish my Ph. D. study with all these achievements including receiving the CUHK Young Scholars Thesis Award.

It’s not simply a story of “Dr. Xu”, but also reflects the experiences of all Ph. D. students. Therefore, I deeply wish every postgraduate student can enjoy the challenging but beautiful academic journey!