## Appendix

## About the Academia Europaea

Established in 1988, the Academia Europaea is a Pan-European Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Letters. It is a European non-governmental association acting as an academy and comprises over 5,500 members, including 83 Nobel laureates. Its objective is the advancement and propagation of excellence in scholarship in the humanities; law; the economic, social and political sciences; mathematics; medicine; and all branches of natural and technological sciences, for the public benefit and the advancement of public education.

## Awards and recognitions Professor Francis Chan and Professor Siew Ng have received over the years

Professor Francis Chan's contributions to medical research have been recognised worldwide with many national and international awards. Some of the honours he has received include the Croucher Senior Medical Research Fellowship 2007-08; Andy Martynoga Memorial Lecturer (England) in 2008; JGHF Marshall and Warren Lecturer (Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology) in 2011; and the Outstanding Scientific Research Output Award (Ministry of Education, PRC, 2011). In recognition of his outstanding academic achievements, he was bestowed with the title of Doctor of Science by CUHK in 2011. He was named the 19th Vikit Viranuvatti's Lecturer (Thailand) in 2016, received the State Natural Science Award (PRC) in 2016 and was appointed the 27th Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecturer (Singapore) in 2017. He received an honorary doctorate from Osaka City University, an honour that it has only awarded 12 times in its 138-year history, and an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Thailand in 2018. In the same year, he was conferred the International Leadership Award by the American College of Gastroenterology, the first Chinese scholar to be selected for this honour. In 2019, global physician directory ExpertScape named him top 0.06% world expert in aspirin. He further received the Gold Medal with Congratulations of the Jury, Gold Medals and Silver Medals of International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva 2022 and 2023; was named as a Highly Cited Researcher by Clarivate Analytics in 2022 and 2023, demonstrating significant and broad influence in his field of study through the publication of multiple papers which ranked in the top 1% by citations during the last decade; and received the Research Mentor Award from the American Gastroenterology Association in 2023. He has held visiting professorships at many institutions in China, South Korea, Japan, Germany, Spain and the United States.

The awards and recognitions **Professor Siew Ng** received over the years include the 2019 Sir Francis Avery Jones Visiting Professor, St Mark's Hospital, and Joanna and David B. Sachar Visiting Professor, The Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai. She was also awarded the 2014 and 2020 Ministry of Education Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Output Award – First-class Award in Natural Sciences, China's highest honour in the field. She was named a Highly Cited Researcher by Clarivate for four consecutive years, from 2020 to 2023. In 2021, Expertscape listed Professor Ng as one of the world's top 20 IBD researchers. In 2023, she received the Higher Flyer Innopreneur Award and the Most Popular Innopreneur Award from the Federation of Hong Kong Industries for her outstanding leadership in innovative technology. In the same year, she was selected as a New Cornerstone Investigator under The New Cornerstone Investigator Program initiated by Tencent, which aims to provide stable long-term support for a select group of exceptional scientists to carry out basic research. She was the first and only Hong Kong scholar in the field of Biology and Biomedical Sciences to receive the honour.