Gabriel M Leung The University of Hong Kong

Gabriel Leung is Professor and Head, having returned to the University after serving in Government as Hong Kong's first Under Secretary for Food and Health and fifth Director of the Chief Executive's Office during 2008-12. He first joined HKU in 1999 and in 2006 became one of the youngest tenured professors in the history of the University.

Leung's research expertise spans a wide spectrum of the public health sciences. He established and directed the School's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Group since the time of the SARS epidemic in 2003. Current priorities focus on field studies and modelling of influenza, hand-foot-and-mouth disease, human papilloma virus and other infections of public health significance. He was instrumental in reviving the "Children of 1997" birth cohort, consisting of 88% of all local births in April and May 1997, that provides unique insights into the contextual life course epidemiology of a rapidly transitioned population and its implications for complex chronic conditions in later life. He has also pioneered the development of cost-effectiveness, health systems, financing and policy research in Hong Kong and around the region. From 2010, he has served as inaugural Chair of the Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, a multipartite partnership of governments, development agencies and the research community.

Leung maintains a substantial teaching commitment in the undergraduate medical and postgraduate public health curricula. His teaching has been recognised by the award of the University Teaching Fellowship and the Faculty Teaching Medal. He has mentored 13 PhD and 4 MPhil research postgraduates.

He is an honorary consultant in family medicine and primary care of the Hospital Authority and attends a weekly clinic.

Extramurally Leung has served as advisor to various national and international agencies including the World Health Organisation, World Bank and the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. He was Vice President and Censor in Public Health Medicine of the Hong Kong College of Community Medicine. He is an adjunct professor of the University of Pennsylvania and adjunct professorial researcher of the China National Health Development Research Center. He coedits the Journal of Public Health and serves on the editorial boards of Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health, Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice, BMC Public Health and BMC Health Services Research.