The UF has made a new exchange agreement with the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). This agreement, between UF’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and HKUST’s School of Sciences, allows each year two UF undergraduates majoring in physical or biological sciences, or mathematics, to study one semester at HKUST.

Some of you have probably heard about HKUST, at which one of our former faculty members, Professor Ho Bun Chan, teaches. Located on the slope of a lush green hill overlooking Clear Water Bay of Hong Kong, HKUST is one of the top six universities in Asia. Most of the HKUST faculty members, including Professor Chan, have graduated from American universities -- a few are in fact Americans -- and all classes are taught in English.

Hong Kong is a cosmopolitan city, with Chinese culture, fantastic cuisine, and vibrant night life. It is the major hub of Asia and a gateway to the rest of China. Travel opportunities are abundant. Safe public transportation provides easy access from the university campus to the bustling city center and to outdoor activities in surrounding hills and on beaches.

Presently, the exchange agreement is only for this academic year, and it is not certain whether it will be renewed next year. So this may very well turn out to be your first and last chance to study at HKUST as an exchange student. For the Spring 2014 semester, application must be made online at http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/sas/ (go to Program Search, then find Hong Kong University of Science and Technology -- Science), no later than September 23, 2013. UF decisions will be made by September 26, followed by final decisions by HKUST shortly after September 30.

For more information, visit the UF Study Abroad Service website (http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/sas/), and contact the program advisor Sarah Evans (sevans at ufic.ufl.edu) or the academic coordinator Professor Takano (takano at phys.ufl.edu).