

# Honorary Fellow A Citation

## Dr CHU Ka-lok Peter, BBS

‘Excellence with a soul, Leadership with a heart.’ Shaw College’s slogan enjoins those pursuing leadership roles to cultivate caring, kindness, sincerity, righteousness, and a dedication to contributing to society. The College has itself championed this philosophy with its environmental advocacy, demonstrating a commitment to saving energy and supporting environmental protection through sustainable development. When it comes to embodying Shaw College’s vision and mission, few understand it better than Dr Chu Ka-lok, Peter who has been a member of the College’s Board of Trustees since 2004.

Born in Jiangmen, Xinhui District, Guangdong Province, Dr Chu emigrated to Hong Kong and industriously devoted himself to his studies. In 1952, he completed his secondary education at Queen’s College, then moved on to obtain a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering in 1955 from Hong Kong Technical College, the predecessor of Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Having grown up with a keen interest in household electrical appliances, Dr Chu quickly developed a deep understanding of their working principles and functions. In 1974, combining his expertise in mechanical engineering and his years of experience in sales and marketing in electrical appliances, he founded Alpha Appliances Limited. In 1976, the company began its collaboration with General, a Japanese air-conditioner manufacturer, becoming its sole agent in Hong Kong and Macau. After analysing the needs of Hong Kong’s air-conditioner market, Dr Chu proposed to General that they manufacture machines of a smaller horsepower and size to cater to those with limited living spaces, thus delivering higher quality and more customised products and services to their customers. General’s air-conditioners were among the first to be awarded the energy efficiency label, as well as Hong Kong’s first energy efficiency label for split-type air-conditioners.

Through tremendous market insight and years of hard work developing the appliances market, Alpha Appliances secured General as the top air-conditioner brand in the local market, with products well received by property developers, government departments, hospitals, educational institutes, private enterprises, and general consumers alike. By keeping abreast of the newest trends and technological developments, Dr Chu successfully expanded his household appliances business. He was the first to introduce plasma display to Hong Kong and also acted as the agent or dealer for numerous brands of premium home appliances, including Fuji Electric (air-conditioners), Gala (washing machines, clothes dryers, refrigerators, dehumidifiers) and Cinetron (washing machines, clothes dryers, refrigerators, dehumidifiers and fan heaters). This firmly positioned the company as a leading supplier in the local electrical appliances market. Between August 1997 and December 2004, Alpha Appliances was listed on Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited; it was privatised in 2005. The company – which currently employs more than 200 people – has long been one of the top three leaders in market share.

As a staunch advocate of environmental protection and corporate social responsibility, Dr Chu has made enormous contributions to Hong Kong’s environmental causes. Alpha Appliances took the initiative to elevate the energy efficiency of their products. The company established eco-friendly practices by using air-conditioner refrigerants that do not produce chemicals harmful to the ozone layer, and by introducing inverter type air-conditioners. These air-conditioners have a built-in inverter compressor that can maintain and lock its operational speed, significantly conserving energy by slowing the compressor down when the indoor temperature drops. Dr Chu has also made multiple suggestions to

the government about promoting the wider adoption of eco-friendly refrigerants, as well as other strategies to educate the public on environmental awareness.

Dr Chu runs his business based on a philosophy of sincerity and pragmatism. He opposes hyperbole in marketing, stressing that, 'When it comes to doing business, we must use a down-to-earth, no-nonsense approach. We must sell genuine products at fair prices, and not exaggerate their functions.' Alpha Appliances is dedicated to upholding these pragmatic and sincere principles, providing its customers with superior, comprehensive after-sales service. Leading with heart and sincerity, Dr Chu not only pays attention to his customers' rights, but also to the well-being of his staff, earning respect and admiration from all quarters. In 2005, he was invited to be an Honorary Senior Fellow of the Professional Validation Centre of the Hong Kong Business Sector. In 2006, he was awarded both the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the HKSAR Government and the World Outstanding Chinese Award. After achieving success in his career, Dr Chu spared no effort in contributing with a kind and caring heart to various public and charitable services in his community. Beginning in 2005 and ending in 2012, he served as Co-chairman of the Community Chest Organising Committee and as a member of the Campaign Committee for the Community Chest of Hong Kong. Since 2014, he has also been a member of the Chest's Board of Directors, and has made several personal donations in support of the Chest's activities. Dr Chu has also been a keen sponsor of education, supporting a variety of education expenses for several institutions through donations to the Hong Kong and Kowloon Electrical Appliances Merchants Association Limited. His donations have also helped fund the establishment of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Hong Kong and Kowloon Electrical Appliances Merchants Association Limited School. Truly, Dr Chu's

contributions have not only benefited generations of students, but also the overall cause of education in society. In February this year, Dr Chu made a generous donation to the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals in support of the Group's provision of high-quality and professional nursing service to needy seniors and the development of related facilities. The new care home was named the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Chu Sau Cheung Nursing Home, in honour of Dr Chu's generosity and commendable deeds.

Dr Chu has been greatly involved in The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Since 2004, he has served on Shaw College's Board of Trustees. During this period, he has made numerous donations to support the College's teaching and research, and he has set up scholarships to assist students with much-needed financial support, allowing them to focus on their studies. Our teachers and students are grateful to Dr Chu for his generous support of CUHK and his care for the University will always be remembered.

Dr Chu is a pragmatic and sincere entrepreneur who sets an excellent example in the sales and marketing of home appliances, and in extending his personal success to benefit his customers, staff, and the entire industry. His contributions to environmental education and other charitable causes are highly commended. Accomplished, diligent and virtuous, Dr Chu certainly meets Shaw College's benchmark of 'Excellence with a soul, Leadership with a heart'. Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Dr Chu Ka-lok, Peter for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.

# Honorary Fellow A Citation

## Professor KAO Mayching, BA, MA, PhD

Grounded in knowledge from the West and the East, nourished by exemplary virtue and integrity, and tended with industrious diligence, she has cultivated excellence in the academics of art, and in her life, outstanding achievements have blossomed like flowers.

Art presents the pursuit of beauty in life, reflecting and exploring it from an aesthetic perspective. It is a combination of artistic skill and the techniques and expression thereof. To truly be an artist, one must possess talent and instinct, superb skills and a wealth of experience. To truly be an expert in the arts, one must also possess extensive, deeply penetrating insight into its background and historical context. Professor Kao Mayching is exceptionally distinguished for her unique understanding and appreciation of the arts from both an artistic and academic stance.

Renowned as an art historian, connoisseur of painting, calligraphy and cultural relics, Professor Kao represents the spirit of the humanities. Throughout her career, she has devoted herself to the advancement of local arts education, and to the cultivation of young artists. Industrious and dedicated, she has been one of the staunchest advocates of the humanities, promoting the necessity of the arts for developing an artistic environment in the commercial metropolis of Hong Kong.

Professor Kao was born into an artistic family. Her father, Mr Kao Ling-mei, is a native of Nanjing, Jiangsu Province and a prestigious contemporary Chinese photographer. Her mother, Madam Jan Yun-bor, is an enthusiast of fine arts, in particular painting and calligraphy. Together, the couple established the Mei Yun Tang Collection, which comprises various collections of art, including many paintings

of Master Chang Dai-chien. For many years, Mr Kao Ling-mei and Master Chang were such close friends that they were like brothers to each other. Being the fifth child in the family and growing up in an art-rich environment, it should not be surprising that Professor Kao developed remarkable talents of her own, as well as a great passion for the arts. After finishing her secondary education, she enrolled in New Asia College at CUHK, where she majored in Fine Arts and graduated with outstanding performance in 1967. Having been awarded the Yale-China Association Scholarship to study in the United States, she went on to receive her Master's degree in Western Art History from the University of New Mexico in 1969, followed by her PhD in Asian Art History from Stanford University in 1972.

Professor Kao returned to Hong Kong, her alma mater, at New Asia College to become a professor in the Department of Fine Arts, beginning her untiring, lifelong dedication to arts education at CUHK. Between 1975 and 1977, and again between 1981 and 1984, she served as Chairperson of the Department of Fine Arts, during which time she established the Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Fine Arts programmes, a milestone achievement in the Department's planning and development. In 1981, Professor Kao was appointed Director of the Art Museum of the Institute of Chinese Studies at CUHK, where she spearheaded the Institute's development and the expansion of its collection, exhibition, and research of artwork. During her 18 years as the Director, she was responsible for many great achievements. When the Friends of the Art Museum was established, it fostered a closer relationship with the community both locally and abroad. To further this, Professor Kao organised frequent exchange visits and mutual visits of experts from various cultural institutions

in mainland China, greatly enhancing Hong Kong's understanding of the motherland's museums and traditional culture.

In 1994, Professor Kao was promoted to Chair Professor of the Department of Fine Arts at CUHK. Her areas of expertise were extensive, including ancient Chinese arts, paintings and calligraphy of the Ming and Qing dynasties, modern arts, and arts education, along with the histories of Sino-Western and Sino-Japanese artistic relationships and exchanges. Her spectacular accomplishments in research have received international praise. In 1999, Professor Kao retired from CUHK to become Dean of the School of Arts and Social Sciences at the Open University of Hong Kong, where she worked industriously to promote education in humanities and the arts for the public and society as a whole.

In 2003, Professor Kao retired from the Open University, but continued her tireless efforts to promote arts education and culture. In addition to serving as member and expert advisor in a number of advisory committees of the various HKSAR Government agencies, she also served as chairman and member of the arts development committees of many universities. Among the positions she has held are: advisor of the Tin Ka Ping Centre of Chinese Culture at the Open University of Hong Kong, advisory committee member of the Academy of Visual Arts at Hong Kong Baptist University, and Chairman of the Management Committee of the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre.

Professor Kao's passion for supporting arts education has received widespread acclaim. To cultivate students and researchers interested in and inspired by the fine arts, she established the 'Professor Kao Mayching Scholarship' at the

Open University and the 'Professor Mayching Kao Fine Arts Fund' at CUHK. Furthermore, she established the CUHK's 'Professor Mayching Kao Art History Award', and was one of the sponsors of the 'Madam Jan Yun-bor Memorial Awards for Chinese Painting and Calligraphy', the 'Professor Johnson Chow Su Sing Chinese Painting and Calligraphy Award' and the 'Professor Tseng K'e-tuen Chinese Poetry and Calligraphy Award'. Her dedication to her alma mater, and to nurturing future generations, spreading Chinese culture, and promoting the arts, is admired by all.

In recognition of her contributions to the advancement of arts and humanities education in Hong Kong and internationally, as well as her devotion, donation to and support for New Asia College of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Professor Kao Mayching for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.

# Honorary Fellow A Citation

## Mr KWOK Chi-leung Karl, MH, BA, MBA

A true athletic champion braving the winds and the waves with skill, dedication and perseverance, he is a successful magnate who has ascended through keen insight and strategic vision.

Mr Kwok Chi-leung, Karl is one of Hong Kong's business elite. Currently, he serves as Chairman of Wing On Company International Limited, Director of Kee Wai Investment Company (BVI) Limited, and Independent Non-Executive Director of Tai Cheung Holdings Limited. Over the past three to four decades, Mr Kwok has made remarkable contributions in the finance, banking, and retail industries.

The forefathers of Mr Kwok, a prominent family originated from Zhongshan in Guangdong Province, have earned tremendous respect and esteem for their business success. The family's rise however, began overseas in Australia, where Mr Kwok Chuen—the grandfather of Mr Karl Kwok—and his older brother Mr Kwok Lok entered the fruit wholesale business. The brothers established the Wing On Department Store in Hong Kong in 1907, achieving notable results that allowed them to expand the business into Shanghai. Wing On rose rapidly to the pinnacle as one of the 'Four Great Companies' of Shanghai in the 1930s. The original Wing On building still stands on Nanjing Road as a testament to the golden years of old Shanghai. Today, Wing On is more than a hundred years old, glory still, its impact has never waned and it continues in Hong Kong as a leading department store. As the third-generation patriarch of the family, Mr Karl Kwok took over Wing On in 1991. Under his leadership, Wing On not only operates in its department store industry, but also developed into a multinational company with business being diversified in real estate, investment, finance, automobiles, etc.

Mr Kwok was born in Shanghai in 1948 and soon moved to Hong Kong with his family. He spent his early years at St. Paul's Co-educational College, and later studied Government and International Relations at Carleton College in Minnesota, United States. Carleton College is a small private college that emphasises liberal arts, cultivates talent, and encourages extracurricular activities and social participation. Such humanity education was pivotal in shaping his outlook on life and values. Originally wanted to be a medical doctor, Mr Kwok said, 'Attending Carleton changed my life.' While in Minnesota, the Land of 10,000 Lakes, he also discovered sailing, a sport which has then become his greatest passion and favourite sport. In 1971, Mr Kwok graduated from Carleton and was admitted to the prestigious Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania to complete his Master of Business Administration degree.

Mr Kwok returned to Hong Kong and entered the business arena, working in the finance, insurance, and banking industries. In the 1980s, he took the reins of his family business. The business world is like a vast ocean. Sometimes the water is calm and the surface is mirror smooth. At other times, the waves are high in the raging water of stormy seas. At the time Mr Kwok took over, the world economy was dwindling, and Hong Kong itself was facing an unstable political situation – a daunting challenge for any entrepreneur or businessman. In that turbulent period, he had to rely on his remarkable vision and relentless dedication to lead, persevere, and turn the tide to reinvigorate Wing On for a fresh start and a new journey.

Mr Kwok credits the perseverance, belief and team spirit behind his success to his passion for sailing and his experiences participating in yacht racing. Being

the champion of the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race in 1997 and the Transatlantic Maxi Yacht Cup in 2009, he was the first ever Chinese skipper to have won these international races in history. He named his racing yachts 'Beau Geste' and, skippering them personally, he earned worldwide recognition in international sailing races, adding significantly to the reputation of the Chinese people. Yet, despite his many accolades, he has remained gentle and humble about his success. 'Winning a sailing race actually has a lot in common with operating a successful business,' he once observed. 'You need a good team and you must have prepared fully. You have to have the right horse for the right course. And you have to have a bit of luck.'

Mr Kwok is not only a veteran seafarer; he is also a distinguished athlete. For many years, he has contributed tremendously to the development of sports and athletic training in Hong Kong. In his capacity as President of the Hong Kong Sailing Federation and Honorary President of the Windsurfing Association of Hong Kong, he has been actively promoting sailing sports in Hong Kong. At the same time, he has also been a fervent fan of other activities –hiking in particular– and has left his footprints across the precipitous cliffs and mountain ranges of Hong Kong, Kowloon, the New Territories and Outlying Islands. Mr Kwok served as a member of the Fifth East Asian Games Planning Committee, 2009, and as part of the First and Third Hong Kong Games Organising Committees. Today, he serves as Vice-President of the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Hong Kong Sports Institute. On numerous occasions, Mr Kwok has played the roles of Chef de Mission or Deputy Chef de Mission of the Hong Kong Delegation for the Olympic Committee and various major Asian sports events. In

2011, he received a Medal of Honour from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government for his contribution to sports development in Hong Kong.

While he is a passionate athlete, Mr Kwok is also an ardent supporter of youth education. He served as a Council Member of the City University of Hong Kong and Chairman of the Hong Kong-America Center. His close-knit relationship with The Chinese University of Hong Kong began when he joined the Board of Trustees of Chung Chi College back in 1982, serving as its Chairman from 2002 to 2015. He has guided the growth of Chung Chi College, advocated holistic education, and headed the celebration of the College's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mr Kwok was also a Council Member of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and has served as chairman or member of a large number of committees, including the Executive Committee of Council, the Committee on Bilingualism, and the Campus Planning and Building Committee, acting as the principal proponent of advancements and progress in various fields.

For his remarkable accomplishments in business, his internationally acclaimed success in global sailing competitions, his substantial contributions to sports in Hong Kong, and, even more, for his dedication and support to The Chinese University of Hong Kong, in particular Chung Chi College, Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Mr Kwok Chi-leung, Karl for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.

# Honorary Fellow A Citation

## Mr Kenneth Benjamin LI, BA

*The Book of Changes (Zhouyi, Kungua, Wenyan)* says, 'The family that accumulates goodness is sure to have superabundant happiness.' Renowned philanthropist and entrepreneur Dr Li Dak Sum has made numerous significant donations to mainland China and Hong Kong's higher education institutes, spreading his good deeds and blessings far and wide. Dr Li's third-generation successor, Mr Kenneth Benjamin Li, has carried forward this splendid legacy, bringing an illustrious, innovative new chapter to his family business. Truly, the Li family gives testimony to the wisdom of *The Book of Changes*, having enjoyed wealth and happiness by accumulating goodness.

Mr Li's ancestral home is Ningbo, Zhejiang Province. His grandfather, Dr Li Dak Sum, is an entrepreneur who started from scratch in the electrical appliances trade and made a business breakthrough by introducing Sharp, the world-famous electrical appliances brand, to Hong Kong. His honest and prudent approach to operations enabled his business to grow steadily. After founding Sharp-Roxy (Hong Kong) Limited in 1987, Dr Li gradually established Sharp as a leading brand in the Hong Kong, Macau and South China market. Mr Kenneth Benjamin Li was smart and industrious as a child, and received an excellent family education. He furthered his studies abroad in the United States of America, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Asian Studies from Colgate University. Upon graduation, he worked at an investment bank in Silicon Valley, where he gained valuable knowledge and experience in finance and business administration. When he returned to Hong Kong, Mr Li joined Sharp-Roxy (Hong Kong). Ever insightful and forward-looking, he adhered to his grandfather's teachings: 'To guide an enterprise to success, the decision-maker must be able to take control of its overall operations, and work towards the goal one step at a time.' In view of this, he eschewed a managerial post when he began,

instead accepting junior posts to learn the ropes in various departments, from administration to business development, and product marketing to customer sales. While gathering work experience, he also learnt to be more broad-minded. He accumulated a deep understanding of how the company functioned, shared the ups and downs with his staff and experienced what it was like to work there at multiple levels.

In 2009, Mr Li succeeded his grandfather as Chairman of Sharp-Roxy (Hong Kong) Limited and proved capable in the role. In addition to maintaining the company's good practices in treating customers with honesty and sincerity, he also introduced a series of modern business administration approaches and innovative marketing techniques. However, the electrical appliances industry was experiencing a slowdown, as the global economy had been hit hard by the 2008 financial crisis, aggravated by the 2011 earthquake in Japan and a hike in the Japanese currency. Bearing in mind his grandfather's teaching to 'always be best-prepared and brace for the worst', Mr Li navigated the challenges with exceptional finesse, defining three development strategies for the company: developing corporate clients, fortifying its retail market presence, and expanding component sales. He led the company to tap the large-format commercial display market while focusing on sales of colour multifunction printers (MFPs), and launching a series of versatile products to meet clients' business needs. Under Mr Li's leadership, Sharp-Roxy (Hong Kong) not only withstood the global economic fluctuations, but also gained a foothold in different new markets, accomplishing remarkable results through business diversification. While he has certainly been successful in running the business for his family, Mr Li chose not to focus solely on electrical appliances. He demonstrated an additional brilliant talent for hotel management by serving as Managing Director of Carlton City Hotel Singapore and as a Board Member of the Singapore Hotel Association.

Mr Li understands that employees are a company's most valuable assets. Over the years, he has been adamant that Sharp-Roxy (Hong Kong) provides its staff at every level with an ideal working environment, continuing education and training courses. The company has also taken up corporate social responsibilities by encouraging employees to volunteer for charitable organisations, and by supporting home appliance donation and recycling programmes, earning respect within the industry. From 2008, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service awarded Sharp-Roxy (Hong Kong) the Caring Company logo for seven consecutive years, in recognition of the company's care for its community. In 2014, Mr Li received 'The Excellence in Achievement of World Chinese Youth Entrepreneurs' award from the World Federation of Chinese Entrepreneurs Organization, in recognition of his contributions in enterprise management and social services. Since 2016, Mr Li has been a board member of St. Joseph's Institution International School in Singapore.

Since the 1950s, many residents of Ningbo have come to Hong Kong to earn a living. Dr Li has made numerous donations towards erecting institutes for education in Zhejiang Province and Ningbo. To connect former Ningbo residents in Hong Kong, he also founded the Ning Po Residents Association, serving as its Founding Chairman. Mr Li has also made significant contributions to his homeland, as his grandfather did. He is currently a Member of the Zhejiang Province Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, a Board Member of Ningbo University, and Chairman of the Ning Po Residents Association. In 2016, he was elected an Honorary Citizen of Ningbo City and a Model Compatriot of Zhejiang Province. He has also received the Zhejiang Province Philanthropy Award.

Both Dr Li Dak Sum and Mr Kenneth Benjamin Li have extended staunch support to CUHK through

generous donations. In 2015, a donation of 300 million Hong Kong Dollars was made to set up the 'Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Kenneth Li Scholarship'. This scholarship was established to provide financial assistance to outstanding academic graduates of Ning Po College and Ning Po No. 2 College attending CUHK or two other local universities, so that distracting concerns are minimised and they can concentrate on their studies.

As we bask in the pleasant summertime of May, it is impossible not to imagine the picturesque scenery of the Zhe River running through Ningbo, with green willows and red peach blossoms dotting the shores. An outstanding place is matched by outstanding people, and Ningbo has fostered a host of distinguished persons who are keen on serving the public and contributing to society. Mr Li is a young entrepreneur with Ningbo roots who has made remarkable accomplishments in business administration. His tremendous love and passion for his country, and his efforts in promoting education in Hong Kong have benefitted our teachers and students enormously. Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Mr Kenneth Benjamin Li for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.



## Honorary Fellow A Citation

### Mr WONG Yick-kam Michael, MH, BBA, MBA

'I have nothing in my hands, and my long journey seems unending. But on this chaotic path I've chosen, my flesh may be starved, but my soul is resolved.' Mr Ch'ien Mu wrote in the New Asia College anthem. 'Let's march through hardships and dangers, and be passionate in the face of adversity.' Over the years, these lyrics have become a motto for New Asia College students, encouraging them to thrive in difficult times. They also serve as a reminder for distinguished alumni to give back to their alma mater, contribute to society, and show their compassion for mankind.

In 1977, Mr Wong Yick-kam, Michael graduated from New Asia College's Department of Business Administration, majoring in finance. Born into a blue-collar family, Mr Wong's parents had to labour all day to make ends meet, but even in their harsh living conditions, the couple had high hopes for their sons. Mr Wong studied diligently to advance his studies and meet his parents' expectations. After gaining his degree, he joined Sun Hung Kai Properties as an Executive Trainee. However, he knew that only continuing study would let him excel in the constantly evolving world of business. He switched to an international trading company in 1980, then returned to CUHK the next year to enrol in a three-year part-time postgraduate programme. In 1984, he obtained his Master of Business Administration degree and returned to Sun Hung Kai Properties, as an Assistant Manager. At that time, Hong Kong's future seemed solid as the Sino-British Joint Declaration was signed, and the real estate market prospered in the wake of the economic boom. Imbued with the passion, perseverance and spirit of New Asia, Mr Wong gradually worked his way up through multiple promotions at Sun Hung Kai Properties. In 1996, he was appointed the company's Executive Director, overseeing corporate development, strategic planning, investment, property research and analysis, and infrastructure projects. As Executive

Director, Mr Wong worked closely with his team to establish a brand for residences of the finest quality under the philosophy, 'Building Homes with Heart'. Under his guidance, the company was named Best Managed Company in Asia and Best Property Company in Asia for many years by international finance and investment magazines. Mr Wong achieved this illustrious career landmark through relentless hard work and passion for excellence.

Unfortunately, the smooth sovereignty handover in 1997 was followed by financial turmoil in Asia that left Hong Kong reeling: interest rates hiked, the real estate market crumbled, and the economy struggled. Ever forward looking, Mr Wong focused on the city's long term needs. He realised that since Hong Kong lacked natural resources, the best way to maintain long lasting stability, prosperity, and sustained development would be through fostering talent and supporting advanced education. Reflecting the New Asia spirit of bravery and determination in the face of adversity, Mr Wong devoted himself to volunteer work in the fields of youth development and education. In 2000, he joined the Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association, which helps provide countryside facilities for the young and promotes travel as a means of broadening horizons. He also took up numerous public service posts, including serving as a member of the Steering Committee on Promotion of Volunteer Service of the Social Welfare Department, the Steering Committee on the Child Development Fund, and the Social Welfare Advisory Committee. Mr Wong was appointed Chairman of the Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association in 2005, which was later tasked with revitalising Mei Ho House on the Shek Kip Mei Estate. Mei Ho House's history stems from Christmas night in 1953 when a devastating blaze in a Shek Kip Mei squatter area left over 50,000 people homeless. In the aftermath of the tragedy, the Hong Kong government

built the first batch of resettlement blocks, including Mei Ho House, marking the beginning of Hong Kong's public housing development. Not only did the Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association redevelop Mei Ho House into a youth hostel, they also set up Heritage of Mei Ho House, a museum that commemorates the old resettlement estates and their way of life. In addition, they published *The Memories of Mei Ho House*, a book that documented the vicissitudes of life in the local community and retold the stories of residents' struggle below the Lion Rock during the heyday of the resettlement estates. Both the museum and the book provide much-needed inspiration and motivation for present day youths seeking to equip themselves and strive for success. In those days, Hong Kong people were empty handed and unsettled in a chaotic environment, but were they afraid? Since its completion in 2013, the revitalised project has been visited by more than 500,000 people. In 2014, Mr Wong stepped down from the chairmanship of the Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association to become Chairman of the Jockey Club Mei Ho House Hong Kong Spirit Learning Programme Task Force, tirelessly promoting the tenacious Hong Kong spirit of the '50s and '60s to primary and secondary students through different tales of struggle. This work mirrors both his ideals of educating youth through inspiration and his wise and selfless contributions to society.

In 2009, Mr Wong retired from his post as Executive Director at Sun Hung Kai Properties to dedicate more time to volunteering and fulfilling his ambitions for education, but stayed on through 2015 as the company's Non-Executive Director and Group Principal Advisor. In 2008, he joined the Open University of Hong Kong as a council member, then became the Treasurer and Deputy Chairman, and was appointed as Chairman of the Council last year.

In gratitude for the education he received at New Asia College, Mr Wong has contributed immensely to his alma mater. To support students, since 2003 he has participated in the Faculty of Business Administration's Undergraduate and CUMBA Elite mentorship programmes, helping students define their life goals, and sharing his experiences and expertise with them. To support the College, in 2007 Mr Wong joined New Asia's Board of Trustees and has since made donations to set up scholarships. He later joined the College's Investment Sub-committee to help sustain New Asia's development. In 2011, he became a member of the CUHK 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund Raising Committee to help finance CUHK's Golden Jubilee celebrations. He has represented the T S Kwok Foundation in donations for the construction of University Gallery. Finally, Sun Hung Kai Properties supported the recurring Nobel Laureates Distinguished Lectures on campus. The teachers and students of CUHK are truly indebted to Mr Wong's outstanding contributions.

Li Shimin, the emperor Taizong of Tang once said, 'With history as a mirror, one can understand the rise and fall of a state; with good men as a mirror, one can distinguish right from wrong.' Mr Wong's life clearly reflects both inspirational achievements in Hong Kong's history, and the lofty aspirations of the Lion Rock Spirit. As a role model, he epitomises the spirit of New Asia College with his highest ideals. Mr Chairman, it is my great honour to present to you Mr Wong Yick-kam, Michael for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.

# Honorary Fellow A Citation

## Professor Kenneth YOUNG, BS, PhD

To say that Professor Kenneth Young has had a long-standing relationship with this University would be an understatement. Although he took up his first appointment at The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1973, his first contact was made even before the University was established during a visit to Chung Chi College with his parents—when he was just 10 years old. As we will see, perhaps that left an impression on him.

Just a few years later, in 1965, Kenneth Young left Hong Kong to pursue his university education in the United States, at the California Institute of Technology. ‘Nothing very special about that’ you might say, but recall that this was the mid-1960s, when higher education was hardly international, let alone ‘globalised’. Indeed, the seventeen-year-old Kenneth Young was one of only three or four Hong Kong students in the undergraduate programme at the time. He stayed at Caltech to complete his PhD, and in 1972 moved to the other side of the United States, to take up an appointment as a post-doctoral fellow and instructor at Princeton University. The following year he returned to Hong Kong, to take up what has become more than forty years of unbroken service to The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

We should pause there, and reflect on that statement. If only through its duration it is an exceptional record of service, particularly in today’s higher education world.

But we do not measure a colleague’s worth simply by counting the years—important though those undoubtedly are. Nor do we look simply at the kinds of tasks undertaken over the years—although in the case of Kenneth Young the list is truly prodigious, and embraces those of teacher, researcher, Professor, Department Chair, Faculty Dean, Dean of the Graduate School, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and College Master. And that is without attempting to list the many contributions he has made to

the community beyond the academy. It is clear that his skills and personal qualities have for many years been in demand beyond the bounds of the University.

We look, above all, to the qualities that are revealed in that service. And what do we see, when we put aside the curriculum vitae to confront the man whose academic life it summarises?

First, we see Commitment: Whatever else Kenneth Young’s career reveals, it is commitment to an institution that, in his words, is ‘trying to do the right things’. These ‘right things’ include, above all, the idea that first and foremost in the mission of a University is dedication to educating the young people who enter its doors. And in this respect we should recall that during his forty-some years in the University, Kenneth Young did not give up teaching—not at any point—despite the many demands that his other contributions to the University brought to his desk. And teaching is something to which he remains dedicated because, in his words, he can still learn from his students, he likes to see them grow and move on and, as he would put it, teaching is ‘a lot of fun’.

Second, we encounter Modesty: For someone who has undertaken just about every role that a University can ask of an academic, and done so with success, Professor Young is remarkably understated. Not for him the overblown curriculum vitae announcing his many achievements. What we find is a series of modest descriptions of what he has done. How then does he explain the enduring trust that the University has placed in his skills as an academic leader? His answer is typical: He was simply ‘very lucky’ to be asked to undertake certain roles at particular stages of the University’s development and the development of his own career. (One might ask, parenthetically, how many academics

would say that they were 'lucky' to be asked to become a Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and to remain in that role for seventeen years!)

Third, we see an ability to embrace change: The world of higher education has changed immeasurably since Kenneth Young started his career in this University. A young academic entering the profession today would not recognise the academy that Professor Young entered in 1973. Those were the days of no Research Assessment Exercises; no student evaluation of teaching (or only very rudimentary versions of that); no Quality Assurance visits; no real sense of strategic planning; no international league tables; a world in which most universities saw their missions in exclusively, or at least predominantly, local terms; and one in which governments and legislators did not think it a significant part of their jobs to hold universities to account for their use of public funds.

The world has changed, and we in the universities have embraced that change—sometimes willingly, sometimes less so. And as Kenneth Young has served the University he has helped it to meet the challenges of change, a recent and ongoing example being his contribution to the successful establishment of a new university, based on the guiding principles of this one, in mainland China.

And in his own career he has embraced change. Right about the time when many academics would be thinking of winding down, or of retreating to the relative calm of the laboratory or the library, Kenneth Young took up a new phase in his career as the founding Master of C. W. Chu College.

As we all know, the College system is part of the fabric of our University. It nurtures our students, physically, intellectually and morally. Without it we

would not be what we are today, and it is typical of Kenneth Young that when he was approached to become the Founding Master of one of our new Colleges, he took on that role and gave himself wholeheartedly to the task, seeing through the challenges of the physical construction of the College, the recruitment of staff and Fellows, and, of course, attracting students to a newly-founded College. And even though he has now stepped down as Master, he continues to teach in the College's general education programme and so contributes to the College's mission.

Beyond the University Professor Young's contributions to higher education and to his discipline have been recognised in many ways. He was elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society in 1999; and is a past Vice-President of the Association of Asia Pacific Physical Societies.

It is entirely fitting, then, that in its turn the University should recognise his dedication to our development over more than four decades of service. Mr Chairman, it is my privilege, to present to you Professor Kenneth Young, scholar, teacher and academic leader, for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.

*This citation is written by Professor Christopher Gane*