HKIEd to Confer Honorary Doctorates to Three Distinguished Persons with Marked Contribution to Hong Kong Education

17 October 2004

The Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd) will confer honorary doctorates on three distinguished persons in recognition of their leadership and contribution to the education of Hong Kong.

They are: Mr Arthur Hinton, Professor Sir William Taylor, CBE, and Dr Rosanna Wong Yick-ming.

The conferment will take place at the Institute's 10th Graduation Ceremony to be held on 19 November 2004 (Friday) at the HKIEd Tai Po campus.

Mr Arthur Hinton ~ Doctor of Education, honoris causa

Dr Hinton served the education field of Hong Kong for nearly 30 years. He had made prominent and long-lasting impact on the improvement of the education system in Hong Kong through his leading role in the teaching profession and devotion to community service.

Dr Hinton was the first vice-principal of the Queen Elizabeth School since its establishment in 1954; and became its principal in 1959. Over more than a decade, he has developed the school -- the newest English co-educational government secondary school in Hong Kong then -- into what was often considered to be the best school in Hong Kong at the time. Its students, many from underprivileged families, distinguished themselves not only academically but also with a devotion to the service of the community.

In 1967, he was promoted to head the Northcote College of Education, then considered the most prominent of principalships within the Education Department. He was a significant leader of the teaching profession, during a time of transition when teacher education was settling down from post-war breakneck expansion into more qualitative developments.

In the mid- 70s, he joined the School of Education of the Chinese University of Hong Kong as Senior Lecturer for History Curriculum and Instruction until his retirement in early 80s.

Dr Hinton provided leadership not only in his own specialties, but also in public debates on major education issues of the time, such as medium of instruction, class size, universal secondary education. In the 1970s, he helped establish and led the Educators' Social Action Council. Making up of teachers and youth workers, the group was one of the earliest pressure groups that initiated societal discussion on social issues, contributing to Hong Kong's growth as a civil society.

Professor Sir William Taylor, CBE ~ Doctor of Education, honoris causa

Sir William has had a remarkable influence, in his endeavours over the last 50 years in the education field, both in the education sector of the United Kingdom and on the Hong Kong Institute of Education.

Sir William has been fully committed to the study, research and review of different aspects in the field of education, amongst which higher education and teacher education were two areas of highlight. He has held a number of very senior positions in higher education institutions in Britain, including lecturer at the University of Oxford; Professor and Head of School of Education, University of Bristol; Director of the Institute of Education, University of London; Principal of the University of London; and Vice-Chancellor of Hull University

He has chaired the influential Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) in 1984-1993. Between 1992 and 2000, he undertook a substantial number of institutional and quality reviews for universities in the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

Sir William is currently the Interim Head of the Winchester School of Art, and Visiting Professor and a member of the Court of the University of Southampton.

Sir William was a Council Member of the HKIEd and Chairman of the Council's Professorial Appointments Committee from 1998 to 2004. He has contributed greatly to the growth and development of the Institute. He was the Panel Chairman of the HKIEd's first Institutional Review in 1996 commissioned by the Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation. The professional advice given in the resultant report not only framed the development of the HKIEd's first degree programmes and other infrastructures that supported its teaching and learning activities, but also played a crucial role in bringing HKIEd under the auspices of the University Grants Committee in 1996.

He was made CBE in 1982, knighted in 1990, and has been awarded honorary doctorates by 19 British universities.

Dr Rosanna Wong Yick-ming, DBE, JP ~ Doctor of Social Sciences, honoris causa

Dr Wong is currently the Executive Director of the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, one of the largest non-profit multifaceted youth work agencies in Hong Kong. She has held the position since 1980. For decades, she has been committed to, and with outstanding achievements in, the social, cultural, educational and physical development of young people in Hong Kong.

Dr Wong is the Chairman of the Education Commission. Heading the Commission since 2001, she has been charged with guiding the implementation of substantial educational reform that is premised on all-round development of students. She has provided leadership and demonstrated her abilities in associating closely with the education sector in the challenging times of moving Hong Kong's education system into the 21st century.

Dr Wong is also a Member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Over the years, she has taken up a number of public offices. She was a former Member of the Executive Council (1988-91, 1992-2001) and Legislative Council (1985-1991) of Hong Kong, as well as former Chairperson of the Hong Kong Housing Authority, the Commission on Youth, the Social Welfare Advisory Committee, among others.

She is also committed to a number of welfare organisations and charities, including World Vision Hong Kong, World Vision International, Mother's Choice, the Children's Thalassaemia Foundation and the Hong Kong Council of Social Service.

Dr Wong was conferred DBE in 1997, CBE in 1994, and OBE in 1990. She was the recipient of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons Award in 1985.



Mr Arthur Hinton



Professor Sir William Taylor



Dr Rosanna Wong Yick-ming

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