





Dr Thomas Leung, Professor Anthony Cheung, Members of the Council, Deans and Faculty Members, Distinguished Guests and Fellow Students,

Mr. Stephen Hui Chin-yim MH, Mr. Peter Lee Ting-chang, JP, Mr. Lu Kwong-fai and I are deeply grateful and truly honoured to have these Honorary Fellowships conferred upon us by The Hong Kong Institute of Education. I am also humbled to be entrusted with making the address on behalf of the Honorary Fellows, on this memorable occasion.

Mr. Hui and Mr. Lu have made tremendous contributions to education. I share a passionate belief with both these gentlemen in the importance of continuous service, by making a difference to education after retirement. In the same spirit, Mr. Peter Lee, JP, who is in his prime, is personally and actively engaged in different public service areas, acting in key positions to make significant contributions to education. It is indeed a privilege to represent them all in my address today.

Established upon solid foundations with a 70-year heritage in teacher education and grounded in a rich legacy, the Institute experienced a renaissance in 1994 to become the vibrant 15-year-old institution that it is today. In the past 15 years, under the strong leadership of the Council, the concerted efforts of the HKIEd community, and the unfailing support of the general public, the Institute has taken huge steps forward. In celebration of the Institute's 15th anniversary, 2009 has been named "Education Year", with a full range of activities being organised to advance the quality of education in Hong Kong. Driven by the Development Blueprint which outlines the Institute's development for the coming decade, the HKIEd is progressing on its journey to becoming a Hong Kong University of Education, with a strong Asia-Pacific focus as well as a global perspective.

Inspired by the anniversary theme "Leading in Education, Inspiring Learning", my sincerest wish is that the Institute will become a University, which:

- has a grand vision while answering social needs;
- values the experiences and traditions of its forerunners, while embracing new education theories from around the world;
- nurtures talent for our motherland and community, offering opportunities for young people who aspire to serve in education; and
- provides teacher education to develop outstanding teaching skills, while placing equal emphasis on the cultivation of a positive character, strong virtues and moral standards.

Let us focus on this common goal, working together in our different capacities, to ensure the quality of Hong Kong's education and benefit the next generation.



Once again, ladies and gentlemen, we would like to convey our heartfelt gratitude to the Institute Leadership, the Council Chairman, Members of the Council, the President and fellow Faculty Members, for bestowing this honour upon us. We would also like to express our gratitude to those Faculty staff who have spent so many precious hours preparing for this ceremony, and to the Professors who helped to prepare the citations. Your recognition of and encouragement towards our work would provide us with the motivation to step up our efforts even further. Last but not least, I would like to thank all of you, for taking the time out of your busy schedules to attend this ceremony. Thank you very much indeed.