

Citation for Dr Betty Chan Po-king, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

As Director of the Yew Chung Education Foundation, Dr Betty Chan Po-king has dedicated her life to education. Thousands of young minds in Hong Kong and beyond have benefited from her wealth of experience and knowledge of pedagogy which she has shared with legions of teachers.

Built on the legacy of her mother, Madame Tsang Chor-hang, Dr Chan has developed Yew Chung and Yew Wah schools in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, Chongqing, Qingdao, Yantai and Shenzhen, and Silicon Valley, USA, providing quality international education to both expatriate and Chinese citizens. Most recently, she also established the Yew Chung Community College in Hong Kong.

Now internationally known, Yew Chung began in 1932 as a modest school. Returning from her studies abroad, Dr Chan took over from her mother in the early 1970s, and became one of the pioneers of Early Childhood Education in Hong Kong. She radically transformed Yew Chung into an experiential learning centre, abandoned textbooks and examination-based teaching to liberate the joy of learning. She introduced the concepts of play-based and individualised learning, using music for the development of intelligence, and established learning corners long before these became embedded in contemporary practice. In 1989, she chaired UNICEF'S first international conference on "Childhood in the 21st Century", which was a landmark event.

Grounded in her extensive cross-cultural experience, Dr Chan was also determined not just to adopt a curriculum from elsewhere, replicating the Western educational model locally. Instead, she successfully integrated the best educational philosophies and practices of the East and West, creating a unique bilingual and bicultural Co-teaching and Co-administration model, giving equal status to the two world languages and cultures. In this way, she and her teachers have nurtured a generation of global citizens, taking them on a personal journey that goes beyond the walls of their classrooms.

Dr Chan obtained her first two degrees in Education from the University of Hawaii, and was awarded a scholarship from the American Association of University of Women. She started her PhD at the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign (UIUC) under Professor Bernard Spodek, but had to return to Hong Kong to resume her responsibilities, and later completed her doctorate at the Union Institute and University (the then Union Institute) under

Professor Roy Fairfield. Since 1973, she has been one of the first female life members of Phi Delta Kappa, and in 2010, she was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from UIUC in recognition of her pioneering work in Early Childhood Education and her consistent advocacy for excellence in all levels of education.

Despite her heavy responsibilities and demanding schedule, Dr Chan devotes herself to serving the education and wider community. She served six years as a member of the Education and Manpower Bureau's Standing Committee on Language Education Research (SCOLAR), and was member of the Advisory Committee on Teacher Education and Qualifications (ACTEQ), and Appeals Board (Education). Apart from other education-related appointments, she currently also serves as Honorary President of the Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres.

During her career, Dr Chan has set a number of precedents. In 2004, she was the first Chinese Keynote Speaker at the Alliance for International Education Conference in Dusseldorf, Germany. In 2006, she founded the Hong Kong chapter of the Pacific Early Childhood Education Research Association (PECERA), and was elected as the International President last year.

Mr Chairman, on behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education and in recognition of the enormous contribution she has made to education in Hong Kong and beyond, I present Dr Betty Chan Po-king to you for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Mr Cheng Kok-kong, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Mr Cheng Kok-kong is an exceptional lyricist of Cantonese pop songs and an influential figure widely respected in Hong Kong's music sector. Profound and spirit-lifting, his lyrics are true cultural gems that have inspired a whole generation of Hong Kong people to strive for better lives. A teacher by profession whose career spanned three decades, Mr Cheng graduated in 1965 from the Grantham College of Education, one of the Institute's predecessors. For nearly 40 years he has written lyrics, a personal interest he has sustained beyond his retirement from teaching.

Mr Cheng studied Arts at the Grantham College, and joined the Ng Wah College-Primary School (PM), currently Ng Wah Catholic Primary School, teaching a number of subjects including English Language, Mathematics as well as Arts and Crafts, until retirement. In the late 1960s, Mr Cheng took part in planning and scriptwriting work for children's television programmes during his spare time, and began writing lyrics for children's songs. He later wrote lyrics for short drama segments in television variety programmes, unfolding his creative journey as a lyricist.

Often carrying a healthy, motivational theme, Mr Cheng's lyrics are filled with positive energy and are highly educational. Some of his most representative works include *A Little Candlelight*, *Oshin's Story*, *Encore* and *A Real Man*, all of which are widely acclaimed popular classics. His earlier works for children, such as *When We Were Young*, *Banana Boat* and *Hopscotch* were exuberant with joy and candid charm. A whole generation of Hong Kong people grew up knowing these memorable classics.

A prolific lyricist, Mr Cheng has written more than 2,000 songs to date. The accolades he has received include the Highest Number of Active Works Performed Award from the Composers and Authors Society of Hong Kong (CASH) for six consecutive years from 1987. His highly accomplished style has also earned him many other awards, including the CASH Hall of Fame Award in 2002, a Silver Jubilee Music Award from Radio Television Hong Kong in 2003 and the Outstanding Lyricist Award at the 2008 Hong Kong Drama Awards.

Upon retirement from full-time teaching in 1996, Mr Cheng began devoting his time to learning a wide range of arts, such as Chinese painting, ceramics, tea art and Cantonese opera composition. He is particularly passionate about writing new Cantonese operas for children based on ancient Chinese legends, including *The Young Generals of the Yang Family*,

Hua Mu-lan and The Barbarian's Song. These works were created to help children learn about the concepts of morals and virtues such as loyalty, filial piety, benevolence and righteousness in the Chinese tradition.

Mr Cheng started teaching lyric writing in 2008, and has taught at the Hong Kong Baptist University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has also taught at the Institute as guest lecturer for a course on popular music and society, a unit of our Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Creative Arts and Culture programme.

Mr Chairman, Mr Cheng is a truly extraordinary alumnus of the Institute. Whether in his career as a teacher, his part time pursuit as a lyricist, or his post-retirement work in creating Cantonese operas for children, his work is closely linked to education or meaningful to it. He has made profound contributions to education, and his highly accomplished artistry in lyric writing has led to a series of outstanding achievements in Hong Kong's music sector. On behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, I present Mr Cheng Kok-kong for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Ms Rowena Cheung Po-man, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

An outstanding alumna of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, Ms Rowena Cheung Po-man is devoted to the promotion of visual arts education and has achieved exceptional results throughout her career. From 1996 to 2012, Ms Cheung furthered her studies at HKIEd in four different programmes, and in 2012 obtained a Master's degree in Visual Arts Education. Not only has she successfully launched a wide range of arts initiatives in the primary school at which she has been teaching for the past 15 years, but she has also dedicated herself to promoting arts education across Hong Kong.

Ms Cheung is currently panel head of Visual Arts at the Hong Kong Taoist Association Wun Tsuen School, where over 90% of students have non-Chinese backgrounds. She has designed a rich variety of arts projects that provide excellent opportunities for the integration of ethnic-minority students into the community. Witnessing fantastic results, both the students' parents and the school have extended their full support for these initiatives. Likewise, Ms Cheung's teaching plan designs are highly regarded and widely praised amongst fellow teachers and educators. She has been awarded many prizes over the years, including the 5th Outstanding Teachers Award (2003) by the Hong Kong Outstanding Teachers Association, the Chief Executive's Award for Teaching Excellence in Arts Education (2006-2007), and the Outstanding Arts Teacher Award (2012-2013) by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC). Her school also received the Bronze, Gold and Silver medals in the HKADC's Award for Arts Education in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively.

Beyond her work at Wun Tsuen School, Ms Cheung volunteers in arts education. In 2004, she joined the Hong Kong Society for Education in Art as a committee member, and is currently its President. She has led the Society in the promotion of arts education in Hong Kong, organising a series of projects based on the needs of teachers and local arts development. Some of these projects include Witnessing Art in Hong Kong and a charitable programme promoting integration titled Leaping with Art that offer fantastic opportunities for students to develop their potential through artistic creativity.

Ms Cheung believes that arts education is an indispensable component of a student's holistic development. She hopes to promote the professional development of visual arts teachers and raise the profile of visual arts education. She firmly believes that artistic creation often begins with the wildest imaginations, so she encourages her students to develop bold new ideas, to continue taking on new challenges and to transform their

imaginations into tangible pieces of art. With her guidance, her students have discovered a wealth of joy in art and creativity.

Upon the invitation of local and overseas institutions, Ms Cheung frequently appears at academic conferences as a guest speaker. From 2005 to 2008, she was invited to serve as an Arts Examiner for the HKADC. In 2006, she was invited by the Macau Cultural Affairs Bureau to be a workshop instructor for the Community Arts Education Project at the Macau Tap Seac Gallery. In 2013, she was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons in recognition of her dedicated efforts in arts education.

Mr Chairman, Ms Cheung has made tremendous contributions to the promotion of arts education in Hong Kong, and has worked tirelessly towards our city's vision of becoming a vibrant creative capital. On behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, I present Ms Rowena Cheung Po-man for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Dr Francis Cheung Wing-ming, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Dr Francis Cheung Wing-ming has, over the years, diligently served not only The Hong Kong Institute of Education, but also many other schools and institutes of learning in Hong Kong.

Considering the importance of IT in school education nowadays, it is almost impossible to recall what education was like without iPads and the Internet. Dr Cheung was quick off the mark in the late 1980s in identifying the future technological direction of education. In 1987 he worked as one of the pioneers in promoting computer education in Hong Kong, contributing to the preparation of a computer literate teaching force for six years.

Dr Cheung currently uses his rich experience to act as a consultant to education organisations in Hong Kong, the mainland, the UK and Australia. Between 2004 and 2010, he led the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority as both its deputy secretary general and later its secretary general. He was at the centre of assessment reform in Hong Kong, and also shared his extensive experience in his role as a member of the International Advisory Panel of the Oxford University Centre for Educational Assessment, and as an expert consultant for the Tianjian Examinations Authority in the mainland.

Here at The Hong Kong Institute of Education, we owe Dr Cheung a debt of gratitude not only for his years of service, but also for the initiatives he led. Personally, I have learnt a lot from him and have worked with him on a collaborative international research project. Dr Cheung worked here as the supervisor of the HKIEd Jockey Club Primary School. He was also the principal lecturer and deputy director of the Institute's Centre for Research and International Collaboration. He later became the Institute's Registrar. During his stay with us, Dr Cheung led a team in developing the Institute's first Bachelor of Education Honours degree programme. He was also at the forefront of the successful Institutional Review exercise, which led to the self-accreditation status of the Institute's education programmes. Dr Cheung previously organised and conducted research seminars for academic staff members at the Institute.

Built upon his decades of rich experience, Dr Cheung has served on numerous committees and school sponsoring bodies in Hong Kong, in particular for the Catholic Diocese. He has acted as a consultant to schools at all levels from kindergartens and secondary schools to special schools, and has given talks, seminars and workshops in many schools on the professional development of teachers, principals and supervisors. He has also led many local

and international education research projects. Among other accolades Dr Cheung has been given over the years, he deservedly received a Medal of Honour from the HKSAR government in 2002 in recognition of his contribution to the development of quality education in Hong Kong.

Mr Chairman, on behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, in recognition of his years of dedication to education, I present Dr Francis Cheung Wing-ming to you for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Mrs Chu Tang Lai-kuen, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Mrs Chu Tang Lai-kuen's dedication to child welfare dates back to the late 1950s. In 1959, she was a teacher at a roof top school. Most people led difficult lives in those days, and many adults worked from dawn to dusk just to make ends meet. As a result, children were often left unattended. Mrs Chu once witnessed a seven-year-old child developing behavioural problems due to a lack of supervision and care. Such encounters tugged at her heartstrings. Motivated by her compassion for children, she enrolled in a one-year full-time certificate programme on child welfare offered by the Social Welfare Department. From that moment on, she dedicated her career to early childhood education.

Deeply concerned about the psychological and physical needs of young children, Mrs Chu worked tirelessly for the cause of early childhood education. In the 1960s, as part of her practical training, she worked at an orphanage where she witnessed the trauma experienced by toddlers who lost their families. The earlier they suffered such losses, the more severe the impact. This experience steeled her determination to provide a respectful, caring and fair environment for well-rounded development to ensure that young children received the appropriate nurture at the beginning of their lives.

In 1962, Caritas Hong Kong opened its first day nursery in Tsuen Wan. Mrs Chu was there to lay the groundwork. Her passion and talent were quickly recognised and she was recommended to further her studies in preparation for taking up the coordination of various services for young children within the organisation. One of her most admired role models was Ms Gertrude Frenken, Caritas' first Coordinator of Pre-school Education and Child Care Service, whose compassion for children, firm belief in quality service and continual drive for new knowledge made a lasting impression on Mrs Chu. In 1969, she enrolled in an early childhood education programme, much enlightened by veteran educators including Mrs Natividad Roldan, Dr Betty Chan Po-king and Mrs Chan Chen Shu-an. Given these experiences, she became even more determined to devote herself to learning about education concepts that aided the appropriate development of young children through further studies and attending international conferences.

From 1980 to 2004, Mrs Chu served as Coordinator of the Child Care Service and Preschool Education Service at Caritas Hong Kong. Today, Caritas Hong Kong is a well-established social service organisation, providing nursery schools, kindergartens, pre-school education material reference centres and a range of other services including an Integrated Programme

Service for Mildly Disabled Children, Occasional Child Care Service and Extended Hours Child Care Service.

Mrs Chu continually moves with the times, setting an outstanding example for younger educators. Keenly aware of how rapidly fields of knowledge develop, she encourages fellow practitioners in early education to approach their work with open minds and firm commitments to lifelong learning, and to continually explore new concepts in education as social demands change, to ensure that the greatest possible benefits can be provided for young children.

As an active member of the early childhood education sector, Mrs Chu regularly contributes her time and expertise to its development. Some of her efforts have included providing young children's services for Vietnamese refugees in 1978, and playing a key role in the establishment of Hong Kong Early Childhood Educators Association in 1980, with a view to strengthening connections within the education community and enhancing the service standard. She has also represented her sector in voicing its opinions on various issues to the government, including through the Education Commission Report No 2 in 1986, White Paper on Social Welfare into the 1990s and Beyond in 1990, and a 1991 paper regarding measures to prevent children from being neglected and left at home alone.

Mrs Chu's outstanding contributions to early education and social services are widely praised in various sectors. In 2002, she was awarded the HKSAR Chief Executive's Commendation for Community Service.

Mr Chairman, Mrs Chu has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to early education and social service, benefiting generations of young children throughout her distinguished career. On behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, I present Mrs Chu Tang Lai-kuen for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Mr Kwan Kee, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Mr Kwan Kee has enjoyed a distinguished career in education spanning over 30 years, during which he has been actively involved in a broad spectrum of services that aid the causes of education and the community. Particularly outstanding are his contributions to the promotion and development of athletics and the Scout movement in Hong Kong.

In 1975, Mr Kwan graduated from his studies in Sports Education at the Northcote College of Education, a predecessor of HKIEd. During his studies, he showed a keen concern for education and student affairs, and was Chairman of the Students' Union. Upon graduation, he began teaching at the Chong Gene Hang College, where he remained until retirement in 2007. While pursuing his teaching career, he furthered his studies at the Wolverhampton Polytechnic, a predecessor of the University of Wolverhampton, and the Guangzhou Institute of Physical Education. He was awarded Bachelor of Education degrees from both institutions in 1991.

Firmly committed to the development of athletics, Mr Kwan began serving as Executive Committee Member for the Hong Kong Amateur Athletics Association in 1988, contributing significantly to the body. In 2009, he assumed the position of Chairman of the Association, from which he has led the continual development of athletes, coaches, judges and professional administrators. Under his leadership, athletics in Hong Kong has enjoyed increased prominence, enhanced image and recorded outstanding results in various competitions. It has also become the sport with the highest number of participants in Hong Kong. Mr Kwan has been instrumental in organising various long-distance races, including the annual Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon. In 2005, the Hong Kong Athletics Team (HKAT) was officially established. Mr Kwan dedicated much effort to the provision of support programmes and multi-stage training schemes for HKAT athletes, working closely with the Association and coaches across the region. Thanks to these initiatives and the athletes' hard work, the team has scaled new heights over the years, with success in various competitions greatly boosting its morale.

Mr Kwan has led the HKAT to participate in many international competitions. As Team Manager in Athletics, he took the Hong Kong Olympic Team to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and the 2006 Asian Games in Doha. He was Chairman of Athletics Organising Committee for the 2009 East Asian Games. In addition, he was appointed International Technical Official by the International Association of Athletics Federations, International Paralympic Committee

and the Asian Athletics Association, providing crucial support during major athletic events including the 2010 Commonwealth Games in New Delhi and the 2012 London Olympics.

In terms of his contribution to the Scout movement, Mr Kwan was appointed by the Scout Association of Hong Kong as Camp Director for the Join-in-Centenary Jamboree in 2007. As part of the World Scout Jamboree, the event aimed to foster the spirit and special characteristics of scouting, with a focus on overcoming challenges with teamwork. He has been serving as Regional Commissioner (Hong Kong Island Region) for the Scout Association of Hong Kong since 2008, a role of great responsibility that he has taken up with a real sense of long-term commitment.

Some of Mr Kwan's significant public service contributions include his time as Chairman of the Sir David Trench Fund and his membership of the Board of Trustees of the Lord Wilson Heritage Trust.

In recognition of his contributions to the community, Mr Kwan was awarded Certificate of Commendation by the Secretary for Home Affairs in 2008 and the Chief Executive's Commendation for Community Service 2013, for his outstanding service to athletics and the Scout movement.

Mr Chairman, Mr Kwan has tirelessly dedicated his career to serving Hong Kong for the past three decades, with exceptional achievements in the promotion of athletics and the Scout movement. On behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, I present Mr Kwan Kee to you for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Mr Lee Park-keong, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

With a distinguished career spanning four decades, Mr Lee Park-keong has wholeheartedly dedicated himself to the profession of education and the development of examinations and assessment. Thoughtful, meticulous and conscientious, he is held in the highest regard by his fellow educators.

Mr Lee completed his secondary school studies at the Choi Ko Middle School Macau in 1953, and entered the Grantham College of Education upon graduation. He joined the Methodist School (Primary Section) as a teacher in 1954 and later taught at the Pokfulam Government Primary School. During the same period, he furthered his studies at the Chinese Faculty of the Evening School of Higher Chinese Studies, and graduated with the Chao Kwan-lam Award. In 1960, Mr Lee was appointed Lecturer at the Sir Robert Black College of Education, where he taught the subject of Pedagogy in Social Studies. He subsequently taught a number of other subjects at the College, including Audio and Visual Education, Economic and Public Affairs, and Chinese Language. He observed over 4,000 classes conducted by students of the College in 13 years, and provided training to over 5,000 teachers.

In 1967, Mr Lee entered New Asia College of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), where he majored in Fine Arts and minored in Chinese Literature. He graduated with First-Class Honours. In 1973, he was appointed to teach at Jockey Club Government Secondary School as a Chinese Language teacher. Under his guidance, students showed marked improvements. He was responsible for Moral Education at the school, where he delivered many stirring speeches to students and encouraged them to strive for excellence. In 1976, Mr Lee was transferred to the Examination Division of the Education Department, where he was responsible for devising the examination content of the Chinese Language and Chinese Literature subjects for the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE). He also studied at the Faculty of Education at CUHK, where he received the Yuen Chung-lau Award and graduated with a Master of Arts degree. In 1978, he was recruited by the Hong Kong Examinations Authority. As its Chinese Language Subject Officer, he worked with great dedication in planning the Chinese Language and Literature subjects for the Hong Kong Higher Level Examination (HKHLE) and the Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE). In the 1990s, the Examinations Authority launched the Putonghua Proficiency Tests, for which Mr Lee served as the secretary during the first two years, overseeing the establishment of a rigorous system. He was widely recognised for adhering to the highest standard of fairness and openness in public examinations.

Mr Lee was previously involved in editorial work for the monthly magazine *Living Education*, for which he authored a large collection of full-length articles and short essays of close to 50,000 words, sharing his observations of and experiences in education in general and Chinese Language education in particular. He also shared these insights in public lectures. Mr Lee taught as a part-time lecturer in Art and Design at CUHK's Department of Extramural Studies, in addition to providing his expertise in supervision and assessment to CUHK's Department of Education. He served as a judge for the Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival, Chinese speech festivals associated with youth culture and arts competitions, and Chinese calligraphy competitions.

Upon graduating from Grantham College, Mr Lee immediately joined its Past Students' Association (GCEPSA) as a Committee Member and served in positions including Secretary and Vice-Chairman. Currently Chairman of the Association, Mr Lee leads it in maintaining ties amongst its members, who work together for the advancement of education and nurturing of future talent. During the 1980s, Mr Lee began to serve as School Manager for a number of member schools under the Association. In 2011, he assumed the position of School Supervisor and Chairman of the Board of the Incorporated Management Committee for the GCEPSA Whampoa Primary School. He also worked as chief editor for *Down Memory Lane: Our Golden Years at Grantham College of Education*, a book commemorating the 60 years of the Grantham College of Education. Mr Lee has always shown great care and concern towards HKIEd, extending his support for the Institute's many initiatives and future development. He was previously a committee member for the Ho Nga-ming Memorial Scholarship.

Mr Lee is passionate about Chinese poetry, literature and traditional paintings. His calligraphy has appeared on many book covers, posters and inscriptions. His paintings have also been displayed in various exhibitions. He is indeed a Chinese literati. After retiring in 1996, he began to pursue his growing passion for Cantonese opera and has performed under the stage name Tin-but since then. His recent publications include *A Detailed Study of Cantonese Opera Singing Styles and Melodies* and *Chan Siu-fung's Artistry in Cantonese Opera – A Comprehensive Study*. The two books contain nearly 700,000 words and aim at bringing greater prominence to this form of cultural heritage while promoting it to a wider audience.

Mr Chairman, Mr Lee has dedicated his career to education in Hong Kong with passion and commitment. In addition to his work in public examinations, he has also played a crucial role in maintaining the cohesion of the Grantham College alumni community and offered his

generous support to the Institute. Although his responsibilities are many, he has truly excelled in all of these areas. On behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, I present Mr Lee Park-keong for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Mrs Laura Ling Lau Yuet-fun, *Honorary Fellow*

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Mrs Laura Ling Lau Yuet-fun is a truly passionate leader who has dedicated more than 30 years to a distinguished career in special education. During that time she has proven herself to be a gifted and inspiring educator and has made a pioneering contribution to the promotion of sports for individuals with intellectual disabilities. In terms of public and community service, she is equally outstanding, having served in roles including Chairperson of the Hong Kong Special Schools Council, and as a member of various bodies, including the Curriculum Development Council, the Steering Committee on Parent Education, the Transport Advisory Committee, the Hong Kong Paralympians Fund Management Committee, the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Appeals Board and the Shatin District Council. In recognition of her extensive and outstanding achievements, she was awarded the Medal of Honour in 1996 and 2002, and the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the HKSAR government in 2007.

Mrs Ling is a trained teacher, having graduated from the Grantham College of Education, one of HKIEd's predecessor Colleges. Upon graduation she began a career as an English Language teacher in a primary school. A decade later, driven by her deep commitment to children with special needs coupled with a desire to seek new challenges, she pursued further studies in Special Education. In 1982, she became the founding principal of the Shatin Public School, serving students between the ages of six and eighteen with mild intellectual disabilities. In 1989, she launched a support service for children with autism that went on to achieve outstanding results for its students. During this period, she dedicated a vast amount of effort to supporting mainstream schools, and founded the Leaping Forward Scheme, which serves to strengthen exchanges between mainstream and special education schools and provides outreach support and training services to teachers from a wide range of schools. Mrs Ling also dedicated herself to the vitally important job of strengthening communications between schools and parents to advance both parties' understandings of students' needs. After serving at the Shatin Public School for 25 years, she retired in 2007 but continues to serve as Chairperson of its Incorporated Management Committee.

Mrs Ling's commitment to the value of sport in enriching the lives of students with special needs has led to the creation of many opportunities for specialised training and participation in various tournaments. She believes that given trust and hope, these students can overcome their disabilities. Under her leadership and encouragement, athletes from Hong Kong have achieved outstanding results internationally, including many awards at the past few Special Olympic Games. That said, Mrs Ling states that her greatest rewards and

satisfaction have come from witnessing students triumph over adversity and grow to maturity.

Currently, Mrs Ling is the Chairperson of Special Olympics Hong Kong and the Vice President of the Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped. She has worked tirelessly for the athletes' welfare over the years, striving to strengthen the support for them and for coach training. For example, training has been given in Floor Hockey, leading to the formation of teams that compete in various integrated competitions. Mrs Ling has also actively promoted the development of the Motor Skills Training Programme and arranges for instructors to provide such training to people graded with severe intellectual disabilities through various organisations.

Mr Chairman, with true passion, Mrs Ling has dedicated herself wholeheartedly to the advancement of special education and the promotion of the Special Olympics. On behalf of The Hong Kong Institute of Education, it is with great pleasure that I present Mrs Laura Ling Lau Yuet-fun for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.