

Citation for Ms Amy Chan Lim-chee, BEM, JP

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Badminton legend Ms Amy Chan Lim-chee made a lasting impression in the 1980s with her exceptional performance which earned a string of medals. After she stepped away from competitions, she has remained dedicated to sports. Ms Chan is a role model, not only for her sporting achievements but also for her tireless efforts in championing educational opportunities for athletes.

Ms Chan began her stellar career, which saw her rise to Hong Kong's top seed and one of the best badminton players in the world, with a fortuitous tryout. Seeing that she was already there, she decided to pick up the racket and play. She was spotted by a talent scout, and thus began her training as an athlete.

With professional training and perseverance, she earned a coveted place on the Hong Kong Badminton Team and was crowned Hong Kong badminton women's singles champion for nine consecutive years from 1975 to 1983. At the age of 17, she was crowned Asian Youth Champion and one year later World Champion, cementing her position in badminton. In 1988, she took bronze in the mixed doubles in the Seoul Olympic Games Badminton Exhibition Match and was ranked third in the World Badminton Grand Prix Finals. She went on to win gold in mixed doubles and bronze in the team event at the XIV Commonwealth Games held in New Zealand. Just as she was reaching the pinnacle of her sporting career, she announced her retirement from competitive badminton.

In 1987, she received the first-ever Sport Scholarship from the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI). Returning to studies after a seven-year hiatus since she graduated from Northcote College of Education, a predecessor of The Education University of Hong Kong, she harboured self-doubt. Nevertheless, she plucked up her courage and with a humble heart she studied earnestly for a Bachelor of Physical Education at Springfield College, USA. Ms Chan also holds an EMBA from The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Her positive attitude, determination and courage to try new things have enabled her to embrace challenges and excel. She carved out a new career path when she took the post of Commercial Operations Manager at HKSI. An acute observer, a skill acquired through years of training, she analysed the programmes available and established a new commercial operations department.

In her post as Athlete Affairs Manager at HKSI, she was able to realise her vision of helping fellow athletes pursue education to give them diversified career pathways. Ms Chan, who completed her studies at Northcote College and at the same time competed professionally, knows that athletes have the ability to pursue dual career pathways but support is crucial. Her first task was to change people's perception. Although her proposals were at first rejected, she was never discouraged. Armed with a belief in the Chinese proverb "Heaven rewards the diligent", she persevered and successfully convinced universities that athletes are fast learners who are focused and determined.

In the past 12 years, through her dual role as Executive Manager of the Racing Development Board and Headmistress of Apprentice Jockeys' School, Hong Kong Jockey Club, Ms Chan has dedicated her energy and efforts to the personal development of every individual. She introduced a new approach that went beyond training on horseback. Within two years, she established the first career-oriented course which includes subjects such as sports science, financial management and music. Under her leadership, the percentage of wins by local jockeys per season jumped from five per cent to 50 per cent. Her goal is not only to train successful jockeys, but also to nurture them so they become people with integrity.

In 1991, Ms Chan became the first female athlete from Hong Kong to receive the British Empire Medal in recognition of her sporting achievements and meritorious public service, and in 2012, she was awarded Justice of the Peace. Ms Chan was named one of the Ten Most Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong in 1995. She was honoured with the Hong Kong Sports Press Association's inaugural 10 Most Outstanding Sports Stars of the Decade (1988-1998), followed by the awards of 20 and 30 Most Outstanding Sports Stars of the past 20 and 30 years respectively.

Currently, Ms Chan is Chairman of the Hong Kong Elite Athletes Association and the Hong Kong Paralympians Fund of the Social Welfare Department. Committed to supporting sports development and fellow athletes, she serves as a Star Mentor of the Hong Kong Athletes Career & Education Programme and is a Laureus Ambassador. She also serves as a board member of HKSI and the Steering Committee on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, as well as a Specialist of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. She was also a member of the Commission on Poverty.

Mr Chairman, Ms Amy Chan Lim-chee has shown an unswerving commitment to promoting positive change in the education system for athletes to realise their dreams and reach their full potential in sport and academic development. In recognition of her contributions, I present, on behalf of The Education University of Hong Kong, Ms Chan for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Mr Chu Tsz-wing

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Mr Chu Tsz-wing has dedicated his career to preparing the next generation and integrating innovation in education. A sedulous and creative individual, Mr Chu, has successfully introduced technology into the classroom and has boldly initiated reforms to advance learning and teaching.

Education has the power to unite, for Mr Chu, it is more than a uniting force, it is a deep passion that runs in the blood. Born to a family of educators, no fewer than 12 members of his extended family work in the teaching profession, 10 of whom graduated from the then Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd), the predecessor of The Education University of Hong Kong.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in education in 2003, Mr Chu began his teaching career as an IT Coordinator Teacher at C.&M.A. Chui Chak Lam Memorial School. As he was getting settled into his new job, he began drawing up plans for the "Electronic Schoolbag as a Medium for Teaching, Learning and Assignment" programme. He did not allow the fact that he was still a novice dampen his enthusiasm for this project. The programme, which was rolled out in 2004, was widely welcomed by pupils at the school in which he taught. After he joined the then HKIEd Jockey Club Primary School, he continued to introduce innovation and technology to advance education. Other schools have taken inspiration from his initiatives, and in 2016, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government announced the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) scheme.

In 2013, Mr Chu heard that the only school with a Christian background in Wong Tai Sin was in danger of being closed due to dwindling student numbers. Even though it was a risky career move, he submitted his application to Baptist Rainbow Primary School. He decided to take up the challenge of turning the school around and accepted the appointment. After taking over the principalship, he swung into action, reforming the examination-oriented school curriculum and introducing innovation and technology. His unconventional approach and the changes he instituted won approval, leading to an increase in student admissions. In five years, the number of classes expanded from six to 22.

Holding a master's degree in information technology in education from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and the four-time winner of the Microsoft Most Valued Teacher title, Mr Chu is closely associated with information technology and innovation in education. From the 300-plus talks he has given on the subject, it is clear that this is where his interest lies. Mr Chu believes that innovation is more than just the latest technology, and the way it appears changes from one generation to the next. Citing writing as an example, he said people used to write on tortoise shell, then on paper and now increasingly in electronic format. By the same token, education needs to adapt and make use of the opportunities presented by technology.

To this end, he co-founded DreamStarter in 2016. In Mr Chu's view, we need to prepare for the future today. Just as technology enables us to watch shows on demand, we should consider less rigid ways of learning. In contrast to the traditional classroom setting, this new initiative enables pupils, from six to 18 years old, to spend their afternoons working on one-year projects which are inspired by the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals. These projects aim to bring about real changes to the community through innovative solutions. Through this unique experiential learning opportunity, students develop a range of skills, such as leadership, critical thinking and collaboration, which prepare them for tomorrow's opportunities and challenges. In recognition of the contributions Mr Chu has made to the sector and society, he was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong in 2018.

Technology may change the way we teach, but the core of love and care in education is eternal. His genuine concern for those in his charge is the starting point for his ideas. Attentive to students' needs, Mr Chu explores different ways to address the challenges facing pupils. It may take many attempts and different perspectives to find an effective solution but Mr Chu is undeterred as he acknowledges that problem solving requires trial and error. He encourages his students at St. Hilary's Primary School and VNSAA St. Hilary's School, where he is Chief Headmaster, to embrace challenges and keep trying.

Mr Chu believes education is about morphing and changing Hong Kong in the next 30 years. Through education today, we can change our future and the destiny of the next generation—this is the essence of education. He is grateful to have the opportunity to contribute to education through his many initiatives, which support and empower students across Hong Kong to chase after their dreams and become agents of change.

Mr Chairman, Mr Chu has pioneered many meaningful programmes that have spurred developments in education. On behalf of The Education University of Hong Kong, I present to you Mr Chu Tsz-wing for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Mr Fok Woo-ping

Mr Chairman of the Council,

A teacher-turned-lawyer, Mr Fok Woo-ping is an ardent supporter of education who has tirelessly contributed to education through diverse ways over the years.

The middle of seven siblings, the exuberant and affable Fok was often seen with other children, running up and down the neighbourhood. His father, who came to Hong Kong with just one dollar, built a business from scratch to provide for the family. Hoping to channel his time and energy into more productive avenues, his nanny spoke to the housekeeper employed by Ms Wong Sui-sang, a primary school teacher. This off-the-cuff conversation led to a caring teacher-student relationship, one that would leave a deep impression on Mr Fok and perpetually inspire him.

As a child, he had found reading intimidating but this soon changed during his college years through the encouragement of teachers and oddly enough, participation in sports. With a love for sports, Mr Fok entered Northcote College of Education, a predecessor of The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK), in 1971 to study physical education (PE) and mathematics. In a high jump competition, he and other athletes were tied for silver and bronze. The inquisitive Mr Fok turned to books to understand why he missed a medal and successfully appealed the referee's decision to take first runner-up. This forever changed his attitude towards reading, from seeing it as a daunting task to a rewarding exercise.

Buoyed by a renewed quest for knowledge, he made a pact with his classmates to pursue further studies as they relaxed on the basketball court and looked at the stars above the idyllic campus. His efforts helped secure him a place in the new third year specialist PE course. Mr Fok was one of the few who did not have prior experience as a teacher, and the only one from Northcote College admitted to the course the year it was launched.

In his first job as a secondary school teacher, he emulated Ms Wong. He ran a wide range of recreational clubs and after-school activities such as camping on outlying islands, which was novel at the time. He was then appointed school inspector, focusing on outdoor education. He initiated an interschool summer camp and piloted a senior camper programme, giving secondary students leadership training while building a pool of mentors to assist the growing number of participants, which surpassed 600 youngsters.

Amid accolades, he didn't lose sight of his dream of further studies. He went to study in the University of Alberta, Canada and he was at the top of the class. His outstanding academic performance led to a recommendation from his university counsellor to take another degree course. Mr Fok chose law and successfully began his career as a solicitor in the 1980s. He was admitted to the Canadian Bar as a Barrister & Solicitor in 1987 and was qualified to practise as a Solicitor of England & Wales in 1991. After four decades of practising law, he remains committed to the legal profession and continues to help clients through his role as a Consultant of C.K. Mok & Co., Solicitors.

In his view, both PE and law seek to advocate fair play, ensure safety, and govern how things operate through rules. He counts himself lucky to be able to enjoy two different careers. His father instilled in Mr Fok an attitude of gratitude. He is thankful for the opportunities and the people who have supported him along the way.

Despite the demands of the legal profession, Mr Fok has always kept education close to his heart. He has often given lectures on risk management and liability to PE students. He is also a keen supporter of education and persuades his clients to donate to educational causes. He has tirelessly raised funds for Grace Charity Foundation Limited as he believes education can lift people out of poverty. The schools he helped construct in remote areas of Guizhou province provide a safe shelter in the event of a calamity as well as improved road access, linking the community to the outside world.

He often quotes the Chinese idiom “When drinking water, one should be mindful of the source”. Mr Fok has made personal donations and honoured the bequest from his teacher to the Student Exchange Bursaries Fund, which enables EdUHK students with financial difficulties to enjoy overseas learning opportunities and broaden their horizons. A room at EdUHK is named after his most respected teacher, the late Ms Wong Sui-sang. Mr Fok also helped raise funds for the H.Y. Cheung Sports Hall, which is the venue for many of the University’s major events. He is often involved in garnering support for the University’s ongoing development. Since 2016, Mr Fok has been a Member of the Governance Review Taskforce of EdUHK to offer his valuable views to the University.

Mr Chairman, in recognition of his devotion to education as well as his contributions to EdUHK and different sectors of society, I present Mr Fok Woo-ping to you for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

Citation for Ms Sarah Lee Wai-sze, BBS, MH

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Professional racing cyclist, Ms Sarah Lee Wai-sze, is one of Hong Kong's most successful athletes. Winning a string of medals, she has earned global renown and brought glory to Hong Kong. She is an inspiration and a role model for young people.

Ms Lee grew up in modest surroundings and enjoyed many afternoons riding on her bicycle with her older siblings. The sprint event in which she first showed her athletic talent was surprisingly not on the cycling track, it was on the running track. At an early age, she showed great sporting potential, representing her school in both the 100-metre dash and 400-metre race. Her big break came when the school recommended her to the Hong Kong Sports Institute. While there, she was spotted by the Hong Kong Cycling Association.

In 2003, she was handpicked to train with elite cyclists. Despite her lack of training in competitive cycling and the bouts of fatigue she experienced due to anaemia, she rose to the challenge. Showing extraordinary willpower for a teenager, she became a full-time athlete a year later. Just two years into her fledgling career, an accident threatened to put an abrupt end to her dreams.

During a training ride, Ms Lee collided with a dog. She had to undergo multiple surgeries on her left wrist. The injury was so serious that she was told she would never fully recover. It was a major setback but her determination and fortitude helped her recover and get back onto her bike. Shortly after returning to the sport she loves, she broke the Asian record in the 500m Time Trial event and won a gold medal at the 2010 Asian Games. She also won a bronze medal in the Sprint event. That same year, she was presented with the Hong Kong Potential Sports Stars Award.

In 2012, after winning a string of medals at the Asian Cycling Championships, Ms Lee brought home Olympic bronze, Hong Kong's third-ever Olympic medal, with her performance in the women's Keirin event. Then, at the 2013 UCI Track Cycling World Championships, she won a gold medal in the women's 500m Time Trial event and became the first and only female from Hong Kong to wear the rainbow jersey.

Her dream of winning gold at the Rio Olympics 2016 were dashed because of a crash in the semi-final. Once again, she showed resilience and a positive mindset. She picked herself up within an hour's rest and continued to compete in the other races. She showed that sports is not just about winning.

Going from strength to strength, in 2018, she won three gold medals at the Asian Track Cycling Championships. At the Asian Games in Indonesia, she defended her title in the women's Keirin and Sprint. With a total of five gold medals from three Asian Games, Ms Lee is the most successful Hong Kong athlete in Asiad history.

In front of a jubilant home crowd at the Tseung Kwan O Velodrome, Ms Lee bagged two gold medals in the last leg of the World Track Cycling World Cup, bringing the number of

gold medals she won in the six-stage series to six. Adding to her joy was the fact that her teammate, Miss Jessica Lee Hoi-yan, won a bronze medal in the same competition. At the Track Cycling World Championships this month, she made history in the Hong Kong sports world when she became the first Hong Kong rider to win two gold medals, and claim three rainbow jerseys in total.

While many are hailing her brilliant performance, Ms Lee remains humble and is training harder than ever to be stronger and faster for the Tokyo Olympic Games 2020. Her indomitable spirit, perseverance and sportsmanship make her a truly inspiring role model. In the past few years, the friendly cycling ace has been a devoted mentor to younger cyclists. She has also shared her vision in schools, the media and social groups with the aim of encouraging young people to believe in themselves and chase after their dreams. Apart from giving talks at schools, Ms Lee engages in various activities to benefit young people, such as serving as Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF Ambassador.

Off the track, Ms Lee has been keen in her academic pursuits. After graduating from The Education University of Hong Kong in 2017 with first-class honours in the Bachelor of Health Education programme, she embarked on a bachelor's degree programme in creative and professional writing at Hong Kong Baptist University.

Her distinctive contribution to Hong Kong was honoured by the HKSAR Government with the Medal of Honour in 2011 and a Bronze Bauhinia Star in 2017. Last year, she was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong and received the Best of the Best Sports Stars Award for a record fourth time.

Ms Lee is a truly exceptional athlete. Always giving her best, Ms Lee's formidable performance has captured our attention and hearts, while her resilience, refusal to give up and positivity have captured our imagination, inspiring countless youngsters. Mr Chairman, I present to you Ms Sarah Lee Wai-sze for the award of Honorary Fellowship.