

CITATION FOR DR FONG YUN-WAH, SBS, MBE, JP **DOCTOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, *honoris causa***

Mr Chancellor,

Dr Fong Yun-wah is a highly successful businessman. Despite his wealth and status, he is a remarkably humble man, who always has the welfare of the underprivileged at heart. His love for Hong Kong has been amply demonstrated time and again. Over the past 50 years, Dr Fong and his family have continuously and actively been involved in many different charitable causes. They support the development of education both in Hong Kong and on the Mainland, and they also devote tremendous commitment and effort, contributing towards easing poverty, disaster relief, medicine, scientific research and environmental protection. His many philanthropic endeavours have greatly benefited the community. Though he is a businessman, he also sees himself as a “participant in education” and a “social worker” who seeks to serve others while also “giving back” to the community.

Dr Fong's generosity took root during his tumultuous childhood under the influence and example of his father, Mr Fong Shu-chuen. At the tender age of eight, he experienced the painful loss of his mother. Several years later, he had to face the threat of the Japanese invasion. With the war forcing him to give up his secondary school education, he began his business career under his father's guidance. Losing the opportunity to further his education is a regret to this very day. It also shattered his dream of becoming a teacher. However during his early years of schooling, Dr Fong was greatly inspired by Confucian principles, which have done much to help him develop a pro-active approach to life and business. This philosophy has had a lifelong impact on him, helping him to appreciate the critical role of education, while also steeling his resolve to further the development of education and the nurturing of talent. During the Japanese occupation, Dr Fong also saw his father cooking congee daily for the refugees. Learning by example, he has followed his father's charitable footsteps and has dedicated his life to philanthropy.

Despite the turmoil and hardships experienced over the years, Dr Fong has never given up. He has kept up his further education, studying languages and a number of other subjects, a commitment which has contributed to his leading and highly exemplary social reputation. He is currently Chairman of the Hip Shing Hong Group of Companies, which initially concentrated on industrial materials, spices, and the sesame seeds trade. In the 1950s, he switched his business focus to property development, becoming one of Hong Kong's early property developers. With the establishment of his business, Dr Fong also reached out to help the needy. He is currently the Chairman of the Fong Shu Fook Tong and Fong Yun-wah Foundations. He also donates a tenth of his annual profits to charitable causes. This generous commitment sets an outstanding example, demonstrating the spirit of “giving back to society” to the people of Hong Kong.

A key focus of Dr Fong's philanthropic work is the advancement of education development. As far back as 1956, he had set up a primary school in his birthplace, Dongguan County in Guangdong province. Since

then, numerous initiatives to build schools and develop education, stretching over half a century, have followed. To date, he has been involved with some 400 education projects, throughout 31 provinces, cities and autonomous regions in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and the Mainland. He has been instrumental in building kindergartens and primary schools, secondary schools and universities. He has also been the title sponsor in the establishment of more than a hundred additional facilities such as computer centres and auditoriums. This impressive donation list includes a paleoanthropology exhibition hall for the Chinese Academy of Sciences. On the Mainland, many of Dr Fong's donations have been made to schools in remote and impoverished rural areas. In Hong Kong, in addition to his donations to primary and secondary schools, he is passionate about higher education. He has made generous donations so far to nine tertiary institutions for a range of education projects.

The Hong Kong Institute of Education is grateful for Dr Fong's very generous support, which has been motivated by his profound understanding of the importance of teachers on society. In view of his widespread experience in the education sector, he believes that Hong Kong's post-war transformation into the cosmopolitan city that it is today, is due in no small part to the work of the territory's teachers. He sees the Institute as creating the foundations of Hong Kong's success, providing the cornerstone of our society and bringing families, schools and society closer together.

Dr Fong is also highly proactive. Apart from writing to us to express his encouragement and support, he often initiates new projects. These include the establishment of the Fong Yun-wah Distinguished Lecture Series, which invites renowned scholars from the Mainland to lecture at the Institute; the opening of the Shu Wah Computer Centre; as well as his support and launch of various scholarships among other projects. He has also referred other community leaders and philanthropists, who are interested in advancing the Institute's development, to us.

Apart from his interest in education, Dr Fong is also involved in a wide range of charitable causes. Over the years, he has made generous donations to organisations such as the Po Leung Kuk, the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals as well as the Hong Kong Society for the Aged, for the building of elderly centres and kindergartens. He is also passionate about poverty relief work on the Mainland – in recent years he has made donations for the establishment of 17 medical facilities in remote and impoverished rural areas in the country. At the same time, his medical research support includes the establishment of a breast cancer research centre in Sun Yat-sen University as well as research work in AIDS prevention in Hong Kong's universities. He is also a keen supporter of China's aerospace programme, with donations to the Satellite Launch Centres at Xichang and Jiuquan. Additionally, his numerous and diverse public positions include serving the Hong Kong Red Cross as a committee member, the Hong Kong Economic Exchange as chairman, as well as the Wildlife Fund for Nature in Hong Kong as a trustee.

Dr Fong's generosity has earned him widespread recognition. In 1997, he was selected as one of China's Ten Champions in Charity. Two asteroids have also been named after Dr Fong and his wife, the Fong Yun-wah Star in 1994 and the Fong Tam Yuen Leung Star in 2006. Universities throughout Hong Kong, the Mainland as well as countries overseas, including the UK, US, Canada and Russia, have also awarded him over a dozen Honorary Doctorates and Professorships.

Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*

Distinguished Educator Advocates Education for All

Professor Colin Nelson Power, AM

Professor Power will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Education for his dedication to education and his contribution to advancing education for all, the reform of the education system and improving the status of teachers internationally.

During his time as the Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) from 1999 to 2000, and Assistant Director-General for Education from 1989 to 1998, Professor Power played a leading role within UNESCO and in the UN System in the struggle to alleviate poverty, to defend human rights, and to protect world cultural and natural heritage sites.

He was responsible for the overall policy and management of all UNESCO's education and training programmes in its Member States, including all major global and regional education initiatives, such as the International Literacy Year, Education for All, the International Commission on Education for the 21st Century, World Education Reports and World Teachers' Day.

Professor Power is best known academically for his research into science education and the teaching-learning process. He received his PhD in science education from the University of Queensland, where he is currently an Adjunct Professor, and he is also a Professor Emeritus of Flinders University of South Australia. Professor Power has played an active role in professional associations and in the community, including being President of the Australian Association of Research in Education, the Commonwealth Consortium for Education and the World Education Fellowship. He is Foundation Editor of *Educational Research for Policy and Practice* and also a prolific writer with 13 books and over 250 published works on education.

In recognition of his services to education and the community, Professor Power has received numerous awards, including being made a Member of the Order of Australia, the Moscow Medal by presidential decree, a Fellow of the Asia-Pacific Association for Education Research, a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators, honorary doctorates from the University of Sydney and Kazakh State Technological University, and the Clarence McNamara Award for Excellence of service to Australian Education.

Dr Fong 's efforts to nurture the younger generation do not stop with just financial support. He also takes a personal approach, committing both time and care to demonstrate his encouragement and support. I was fortunate enough to receive his personal attention a few years ago, when I was appointed by the University of Bristol to found and head its Centre for East Asian Studies and serve as Chair Professor of East Asian Studies. Learning about my appointment from the news, Dr Fong wrote to me, not only to express his encouragement, but also inviting me to a meeting in Hong Kong. At our meeting he was not only generous with his many kind words, he was also exceptionally generous with the establishment of a number of special scholarships to support the newly established research centre. Furthermore, while working in the UK, I received numerous letters and articles from Dr Fong, who was keen to inspire British students to gain an in-depth understanding of the Greater China region. I have been deeply moved by Dr Fong's nurturing and caring attitude towards the younger generation. More recently, I was fortunate enough to gain a detailed look at Dr Fong's views on education. His beliefs and insights once again fired my passion for education. He is an outstanding role model for us educators and I hold him in the highest esteem.

Outside his philanthropic work, Dr Fong is also an active writer, sharing his philosophy and views of the world with the younger generation through his many articles and publications. His tireless efforts towards teaching and commitment to education are truly visionary. The Institute is delighted to recognise Dr Fong's charitable spirit and contribution to the advancement of education.

Mr Chancellor, it is my pleasure and privilege to present Dr Fong Yun-wah for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*.

**CITATION FOR MS SHEILA PURVES, MBE
DOCTOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, *honoris causa***

Mr Chancellor,

It is my great honour to present Ms Sheila Purves to you. Ms Purves is Director of the International & China Programmes with The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation, which is a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Rehabilitation. Since 1988, she has been promoting community-based training programmes and conducting education work in Mainland China. Although she is based in Hong Kong, Ms Purves has dedicated her life to the education of care-givers, from professionals, officials and community workers to family members working with people with a disability in China for more than 23 years. Her students have gone on to become some of China's most respected health care professionals and community workers today and she is respectfully and lovingly known all over China as "Bei Lao Shi" (Teacher Purves).

Ms Purves received her first degree in rehabilitation sciences from the University of British Columbia in Canada. She began advocating training, to help people with disabilities in China, ever since her arrival in Hong Kong in 1983. In 1989, she launched the first ever training programme in community-based rehabilitation in China. The initial students were all medical doctors. In those days, not many Hong Kong professionals in the field were interested in enduring life on the Mainland, but Ms Purves volunteered. She designed the curriculum, organised the timetable, recruited visiting teachers, and taught much of the syllabus herself. In her early days as course coordinator, there were clashes and misunderstandings and frustration was a major part of life. As a health educator, Bei Lao Shi adopted teaching approaches that many great educators have used. Facing these adult students from a completely different cultural background, she focused on the best teaching methods, thinking through the most suitable teaching practices relevant to their situations. She also made sure she paid special attention to nurturing students' practical problem solving abilities so that they could deal with the problems of daily work and be able to coach and teach their subordinates based on what they themselves were learning and had seen modelled in their training.

Ms Purves not only presided over the daily management of the programme, she also taught many courses personally. With her commitment, dedication, insight and care for the community as well as the people around her, her hard work was widely recognised and the programme gradually expanded. It was replicated at Anhui Medical University and extended through courses in other provinces. Many of the students trained in those early years have since become influential clinicians, leaders, educators and policy makers in China's health care system.

In the 1990s, orphanages in China were overflowing with children, abandoned because of their disabilities. The orphanage workers, though committed to their charges, had no training at all in caring for children with disabilities. Ms Purves thus set up a programme for orphanage workers within the

Civil Affairs sector. Courses and workshops were held in Beijing and across the country, leading to the eventual training of orphanage workers from the main centres, and in turn to the provision of rehabilitation and ultimately an education for these children. Again, many of these frontline trainees have become a core group of rehabilitation teachers within the country. In 2000, Ms Purves was honoured by the British Government with an MBE (Member of the British Empire) for this achievement.

That thousands of professionals now serving people with disabilities graduated from Ms Purves' courses is a significant achievement in education. Currently, she holds appointments as honorary advisor, visiting professor or visiting lecturer at many hospitals and universities all over Mainland China and Hong Kong.

Despite her role as the Director of International & China Programmes, her responsibilities with the WHO Collaborating Centre for Rehabilitation and her many honours, Ms Purves continues her work on the front line. After the devastating Sichuan earthquake in May 2008, she was at the centre of events, helping to provide timely rehabilitation services to the many people injured. In fact, many of the rehabilitation teams sent to Sichuan by the Ministry of Health were headed by her former students. And as we would expect from her "community-based" philosophy, she and her colleagues continue today to work with local partners and communities in the earthquake zones as a resource centre and mobile rehabilitation consulting team for people with disabilities.

In line with the Institute's mission, Ms Purves believes education creates knowledge, understanding and the capacity to transform life and society. Only through education and the training of trainers can we transform society for future generations. Ms Purves also believes in life-long learning, illustrated by her Master of Public Health degree earned from Boston University in 1997. She herself is still "learning through doing". She is now facing a new challenge: developing interactive and innovative e-learning courses to keep Chinese professionals and community managers abreast of the latest trends, skills and knowledge, helping them to apply these new developments to real scenarios and the multiple perspectives found in different communities. With the support of a great team and a network of students and colleagues in China, her vision for caring communities still shines brightly in her eyes.

In her leisure time, Ms Purves is known to some of us as a talented runner. She keeps up her training, which at one time allowed her to represent Hong Kong in international competition, and which now helps her to overcome any stress and frustration at work. She maintains that running has taught her persistence, endurance, and independence.

Mr Chancellor, it is my privilege and pleasure to present Ms Sheila Purves for the award of the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*.

CITATION FOR PROFESSOR TING PANG-HSIN
DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES, *honoris causa*

Mr Chancellor,

Professor Ting Pang-Hsin is an internationally renowned researcher, educator and leader in the field of Chinese Linguistics. Throughout his academic career of nearly half a century, Professor Ting has made some truly remarkable contributions academically, with an impressive array of publications in Chinese Linguistics research. Together with his outstanding leadership, organisation skills and influence, which extends throughout Taiwan, Mainland China, Hong Kong and the United States, he has made an extraordinary and lasting contribution to the development of Chinese Linguistics over the past 40 years, both in the Greater China and North American regions.

Professor Ting received his Bachelor's and Master's degree from National Taiwan University in 1959 and 1963 respectively, subsequently obtaining his PhD from the University of Washington at Seattle in 1972. He studied under the tutelage of Professor Tung T'ung-ho and Professor Li Fang-kuei, two of the most eminent Chinese Linguistics scholars of the time. With his solid academic background as well as the early recognition received for his distinguished research studies, Professor Ting has enjoyed an extremely sound reputation in the academic world since he was a young academic. In the 1970s, he first worked as an Associate Research Fellow and subsequently as a Research Fellow at the internationally renowned Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica. He then headed the Institute for nearly a decade during the 1980s. In the late 1980s, Professor Ting was invited to join the University of California at Berkeley as Professor of Chinese Linguistics, later becoming Agassiz Professor of Chinese Linguistics, a post once held by the legendary 20th century Chinese Linguistics scholar, Mr Chao Yuen-ren. In the late 1990s, Professor Ting was recruited by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology to serve as its Dean of Humanities and Social Science, a position which he held until his retirement.

Professor Ting's outstanding achievements in academic research are widely recognised. While he specialises in the history of Chinese Linguistics and Chinese Dialectology, he has also published important studies in grammar and non-Han languages within China. His doctoral dissertation, "Chinese Phonology of the Wei-Chin Period: Reconstruction of the Final as Reflected in Poetry", published in 1975, laid the definitive foundations for his future work. The publication included the analysis of 37 rhyme categories reflected in poetry from the Wei-Chin period. Through reconstruction, it illustrated the evolution of phonology during the Wei-Chin period, while also tracing influences from the Pre-Qin and Han period as well as exploring the impact on the middle-age Sui-Tang period that followed. The study also covered issues such as the use of irregular rhyming and dialects. Comprehensive in its selection of materials, robust in its analysis, and logical in its reconstruction, the work re-connected Chinese Phonology between the early ancient and middle-age periods. This exceptional publication continues to enjoy lasting significance.

He has also published dozens of studies including: "A New Interpretation of the Even and Oblique Tones" (1975), "The Syllable Structure in Archaic Chinese" (1979), "Notes on the Origin of Chinese Tones" (1981), "Reflexes of Archaic Chinese *g- in the Min Dialects" (1983), "Additional Evidence for Final Voiced Consonants in Archaic Chinese" (1987), "Development of Chinese Tones (1989), "Vowel System of the Archaic Chinese" (1994), "Thoughts on Reconstructing Middle Chinese Phonology" (1995), "A Note on Word Order in Chinese" (1997), as well as "Reverse Word Order in the Morphological Construction of Compounds in Chinese Dialects" (2000), all of which have made important contributions to the field.

Another of Professor Ting's specialisations is Dialectology. Publishing his research results based on personal research conducted, he has made a profound contribution and created a long lasting impact in the development of research theories. His accomplishments in this area can be seen from his studies, which include "Phonological Feature for Classification of the Chinese Dialects" (1982), "Derivation Time of Colloquial Min From Archaic Chinese" (1983), "Reconstruction of Proto-Wu Tones" (1984), "Some Problems in Mandarin Dialects" (1987), and "A Min Substratum in the Wu Dialects" (1988). Professor Ting's research area is not confined just to the Chinese language. He has also conducted research on the Austronesian languages such as Saaroa and Puyuma. His published results have made a substantial impact on the linguistic studies of these languages. Through Professor Ting's academic studies, it is evident that he is actively focused on a problem-solving approach. In tackling each issue, he analyses the validity of each item of evidence in the data available, he then homes straight in to address the core of the problem, while at the same time, considering the comprehensive range of perspectives. As a result, his theories are always logical and are rarely challenged as unsubstantiated, groundless views. This is why his academic studies are so widely recognised.

In view of his enormous contributions to the research and study of Chinese Linguistics, Professor Ting has received numerous awards and accolades. To name but a few, they include: an Academic Award from the Academic and Cultural Foundation in Memory of Dr Sun Yat-sen in 1977 and Outstanding Scholar Awards from the National Science Foundation from 1985-1987 and 1988-1989. He was named as the 16th Academician of Academia Sinica in 1986, Vice President and President of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics in 1992 and 1993, as well as Honorary Member of the Linguistic Society of America in 2000, following in the footsteps of two eminent scholars in the field, Lu Shuxiang and Chou Fa-kao who received this award before him. In addition, he has also been invited to be visiting professor and researcher to nearly 20 universities and research institutions in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore, apart from also appearing as a keynote speaker for major academic conferences, as well as serving as editor for a range of renowned academic journals and publications.

Professor Ting's contributions to the international study of Chinese Linguistics also derive from his long-term leadership in the academic world. An exemplary leader, who exudes confidence, he is effective, well-informed, composed and knows when it is appropriate to take action. Thanks to his advocacy and participation, many important ideas for academic development have been realised. These include the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy, Academia Sinica; the Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica; the Yuen Ren Chao Center of Chinese Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley; the Automation of Chinese History Literatures; a Database of Chinese Languages and Dialects in the 21st Century; as well as a Summer Institute of Chinese Linguistics in China. He has dedicated tremendous effort into the planning and execution of these initiatives. Advancing the research of Chinese Linguistics in Greater China as well as in North America, these initiatives have made a significant and long-term contribution to the field. Gaining these outstanding academic achievements calls for both insight and discernment – Professor Ting has shown himself to be one of the most visionary leaders of our generation in terms of both academic research and development.

Mr Chancellor, it is my pleasure and privilege to present Professor Ting Pang-Hsin, who is held in the highest regard in the academic world. Can I please request the conferment of the degree, Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*, on him.