

15 November 2013

### **HKIED Confers First Batch of PhD Degrees**

The Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIED) today (15 November) conferred its first batch of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degrees at its 19<sup>th</sup> Congregation – another milestone in its transformation into a university of education.

Three PhD graduates received their doctoral degrees at the Congregation, presided over by Council Chairman Mr Pang Yiu-kai.

Speaking at the ceremony, Professor Stephen Cheung Yan-leung, HKIED President, congratulated all 3,090 graduates on their successful completion of academic studies.

He said that significant progress had been made over the past few years in broadening the range of the Institute's programme offerings at different levels, with the introduction of research postgraduate (RPg) programmes, including PhD and Master of Philosophy, in 2009-10.

"After years of growth and transformation, HKIED has now become an institution that offers both education and multidisciplinary programmes at the doctoral, Master and Bachelor levels, and is increasingly recognised for its research capacity", Professor Cheung said.

Meanwhile, four distinguished individuals were conferred honorary doctorates in recognition of their significant contributions to their respective fields in advancing education, social progress and humanity. They are:

- **Professor Michael Fullan, OC** – Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*
- **Ms Christina Noble, OBE** – Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*
- **Professor Lee Shulman** – Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*
- **Sir Gordon Wu Ying-sheung, GBS, KCMG, FICE** – Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*

The 19<sup>th</sup> Congregation also witnessed the graduation of the Institute's first batch of non-Education Bachelor degree students, majoring in Language Studies and Global and Environmental Studies. They joined Doctor of Education, Master's degree and Bachelor's degree graduates at the Congregation (a breakdown of graduates by programme is given in the appendix).

A ceremony was held immediately after the Congregation to kick-start the year-long celebratory programmes of HKIED's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which will include a rich mix of events ranging from distinguished talk series, academic seminars and international conferences to an alumni homecoming day and walkathon, among others. The celebrations will climax with a gala dinner in late 2014.

~ Ends ~

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