

Citation for Professor Jerome Bruner  
Doctor of Education, *honoris Causa*

Mr Chairman,

It is my honour to present Professor Jerome Bruner for the award of the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*. A pioneer of the much-heralded Cognitive Revolution that currently dominates psychology on a global scale, Professor Bruner helped to launch the educational reformation movement in the United States during the early 1960s. From his early research on cognitive development to his recent advocacy of cultural psychology, his vision has had a profound and long-term influence over many areas of psychology and other disciplines, both in the United States and around the world. As a legendary figure in the field of psychology, a prestigious scholar, an esteemed educator and an influential author, Professor Bruner has made ground-breaking contributions to the advancement of education throughout his distinguished career, which has spanned more than 70 years.

Born in New York City in 1915, Professor Bruner received a doctorate in psychology from Harvard University in 1941. After serving as an expert on psychological warfare for the US Army in France during World War II, Professor Bruner returned to Harvard in 1945 and became a professor of psychology there in 1952. From 1960 to 1972, he directed the University's Center for Cognitive Studies. At a time when early childhood education was considered peripheral and university education a much more worthwhile investment, Professor Bruner was instrumental in diverting government funding away from higher education and into pre-school learning, in his capacity as the head of the US President's Science Advisory Committee (with the late John F Kennedy). His work inspired a generation of developmental specialists.

From 1972 to 1980, he worked in the UK and served as Watts Professor of Experimental Psychology at the University of Oxford's Department of Psychology. He was Chair of the Oxford Educational Research Group and a key founding member of the *Oxford Review of Education's* editorial board. In 2007, a building at the University's Department of Education was dedicated to him and named the Jerome Bruner Building. Known for his unorthodox approaches to both teaching and research, he also left a more personal legacy that is equally unconventional; that is, he was the first professor in Oxford's history to travel in his own sailboat, with a five-man crew including himself, across the Atlantic to take up his position.

Following his time at Oxford, he became a professor at the New School for Social Research in New York City and, concurrently, a fellow at the New York Institute for the Humanities, New York University.

In 1991, Professor Bruner joined the New York University School of Law as a Meyer Visiting Professor to collaborate with three other eminent scholars in founding and teaching the Colloquium on the Theory of Legal Practice. The purpose of the Colloquium was to study how law is practised and how its practice can be understood using tools developed in anthropology, linguistics, psychology and literary theory. He was University Professor at New York University from 1998 to 2013, during which time he taught Culture and the Law and Vengeance and the Law at the Law School. Since 2013, he has been University Professor Emeritus at New York University.

His book, *The Process of Education*, published in 1961, profoundly influenced the understanding of perception, memory, learning and other aspects of cognition in very young children. He was ranked among the top 15 most frequently cited psychologists in the

professional psychological journal literature, and among the top 30 most eminent psychologists of the 20th century by a Review of General Psychology survey in 2002. Over the years, he has written a large number of influential publications, some of which have been translated into Chinese, and his theories have inspired Hong Kong educators, scholars and policymakers alike.

In addition to being a researcher, educator and author, Professor Bruner has been involved in a variety of educational enterprises, including the founding of Head Start, a pre-kindergarten programme that has helped to provide more equal access to learning and education for millions of children who had traditionally been deprived of critically important intellectual and cultural stimuli during their earliest years due to poverty. Professor Bruner is generally acknowledged as the principal architect of this forward-thinking programme. In a speech he gave at Oxford, Professor Bruner told the audience: “‘Educational deprivation’, as we called it back then, kept the children of the poor from developing the aspirations and the intellectual skills needed for a better life. On the other hand, research all over the place was showing that if you gave the young children of the less well-off an enabling head start, even in the years before they started school, they stood a better chance of developing the powers of mind and heart needed for later schooling and for a better life afterwards”.

In particular, Professor Bruner was an early advocate of the concept that the human mind actively constructs experience, rather than functioning as a passive blank slate. He also championed the idea that babies are active participants in learning, and that the goal of teaching is not to simply pass on knowledge, but to teach students to think and solve problems. He believes that students learn basic concepts and revisit them repeatedly in the future, as more complicated concepts are introduced over time. Professor Bruner’s advocacy has proven visionary in his time, and it still stands as a powerful reminder of the essence of education, and as a wake-up call in light of the prevailing educational practices in this part of the world, where drilling and attainment of high scores are unduly overplayed at the expense of the development of more fundamental life skills and students’ well-being.

Throughout his illustrious career, the centenarian Professor Bruner has received numerous awards and honours – among them the International Balzan Prize, the CIBA Gold Medal for Distinguished Research and the Distinguished Scientific Award of the American Psychological Association.

Mr Chairman, Professor Bruner’s work has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of cognitive studies, and to the research on the interaction between cultural and legal practice. It is my pleasure and privilege to present Professor Jerome Bruner, and request that you confer on him, in absentia, the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

Citation for Professor Dolores Gallagher-Thompson  
Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*

Mr Chairman,

It is my honour to present Professor Dolores Gallagher-Thompson for the award of the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*. A distinguished scholar and geropsychologist, Professor Gallagher-Thompson has made tremendous contributions to the field of geropsychology, offering invaluable insights with profound and long-term impact on caregiving to older adults. She is currently Professor (Research) in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Professor (Research), by courtesy, of Medicine (General Medical Disciplines) at the Stanford University School of Medicine. Currently Director of the Stanford Geriatric Education Center, of which she was also Principal Investigator from 2010 to 2015, she is widely recognised for her exceptional accomplishments

Professor Gallagher-Thompson received her degree in clinical psychology and adult development and aging from the University of Southern California in 1979, and has worked in the field ever since. She was a member of the Core Faculty in Psychology at the Stanford Geriatric Education Center from 1987 to 2006, Director of the Older Adult & Family Center at the VA Palo Alto Health Care Center, Stanford University, from 2000 to 2007, and Director of the Education & Information Transfer Core, Alzheimer's Clinical Research Center of Stanford University, VA Palo Alto, from 2002 to 2007. From 2008 to 2010, she was a member of the Committee on Aging of the American Psychological Association (APA), shaping the Association's policy related to geriatric mental health. She also currently serves in several volunteer positions with the Northern California / Northern Nevada chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and is leader of the Outreach, Recruitment, and Education component of the newly funded Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at Stanford University.

For over three and a half decades, Professor Gallagher-Thompson has dedicated her career to the advancement of geropsychology, working as a practitioner, conducting research, teaching and providing clinical care to patients and families. She has been a funded clinical researcher since the mid-1980s, with grant support from the National Institute on Aging, the Alzheimer's Association national office and the National Institute of Mental Health. Although she is known for her work on cognitive-behavioural therapy for late life depression, she is most celebrated for her empirical studies on the efficacy of psychosocial interventions to reduce stress and improve the psychological status of family members caring for older adults with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

In particular, she has conducted research with a focus on Chinese American dementia family caregivers in the San Francisco Bay area. A study using a home-based approach was followed by a second study using a newly created DVD demonstrating a range of coping styles commonly used to handle issues related to caregiving. In both studies, the interventions were conducted by bicultural staff in Putonghua or Cantonese, with accompanying bilingual workbooks in Chinese and English. In addition, Professor Gallagher-Thompson has worked with dementia caregivers from several other ethnic and cultural groups in California. Her studies on the development and evaluation of psychoeducational "coping classes" with caregivers have been translated into Spanish, Chinese, Japanese and Persian. This led to a very fruitful long-term collaboration with a partner in Hong Kong that focused on culturally "tailoring" the psychoeducational programme for Hong Kong Chinese, as well as the development and testing of other innovative approaches to addressing issues of cost-effective

care for dementia patients and their families.

Professor Gallagher-Thompson has published about 200 papers in major journals in her field. She is well known for co-editing the critically acclaimed second edition of *Ethnicity and the Dementias* (with Gwen Yeo, senior editor) and the two-book set on cognitive-behavioural therapy for the treatment of late-life depression, published as part of the *Treatments that Work* series by Oxford University Press. She is also co-editor in chief of *Clinical Gerontologist* and has recently been the senior editor of a comprehensive new volume entitled *Handbook of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies with Older Adults*. A substantial revision to an earlier book on the theoretical and clinical application of cognitive-behavioural therapy to late-life depression will be published in 2016 by Wiley in both the UK and US.

In 2007, Professor Gallagher-Thompson received the M. Powell Lawton Award for distinguished life-time contributions to the field of psychology at the Annual Meeting of the APA, San Francisco; and Honorable Mention in the Healthcare and Aging Award category from the American Society on Aging, San Francisco. She is also a Founding Fellow of the Academy of Cognitive Therapy and is recognised as a supervising clinician by that group which allows her to fully train others in CBT.

Committed to using the power of new technology in the cross-cultural application of her studies, Professor Gallagher-Thompson is a part of an international collaborative working group sponsored by the World Health Organization to develop an on-line open-source platform for a web-based programme to manage stress in dementia caregivers that can be used globally. The pilot study will be conducted in Bangalore, India in 2016. She is also developing a series of online intervention programmes for caregivers of older persons with significant memory loss – including one entirely in Spanish. Along with the professional team at the Stanford Geriatric Education Center, she has developed a series of on-line courses entitled *Dementia and Diversity in Primary Care*. With Dr Kim Bullock of the Stanford Psychiatry Department, she has developed an on-line training programme in behavioural activation for depressed older adults - including those with dementia and their family caregivers.

Chinese tradition places a strong emphasis on filial piety, with the well-known Confucian saying that it is the foundation of all virtues. As a result, there is a significant social expectation that elderly people will be cared for chiefly, if not exclusively, by family members at home. As modern society continues to evolve, Chinese families also face new challenges such as smaller family sizes and aging populations. Professor Gallagher-Thompson's studies demonstrate a profound awareness of this cultural tradition, and her dedicated effort will undoubtedly be an invaluable resource for Hong Kong, China and Chinese communities around the world.

Due to personal circumstances, Professor Gallagher-Thompson is unable to attend today's ceremony in person. Mr Chairman, may I request that you confer on Professor Dolores Gallagher-Thompson, in absentia, the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.



Citation for Dr Daniel Tse Chi-wai, GBS, CBE, OBE, JP  
Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*

Mr Chairman,

It is my honour to present Dr Daniel Tse Chi-wai for the award of the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*. A widely respected leader in higher education in Hong Kong, Macao and beyond, and an exceptional role model firmly committed to public services, Dr Tse has made profound contributions to the region's social development over a distinguished career of more than five decades.

Born in Macao, Dr Tse completed his secondary education in his home town. He then entered Hong Kong Baptist College, which had been founded just a year earlier in 1956, to study sociology. With a scholarship from the College, he pursued university studies in the United States. He obtained a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics in 1960 and a Master's degree in Physics in 1962 from Baylor University. After receiving his doctorate in physics from the University of Pittsburgh in 1965, he became a researcher on nuclear magnetic resonance at Pittsburgh and Columbia University. In 1968, despite a promising career as a scientist in the United States and a great passion for physics and science, he accepted an invitation extended by Dr Lam Chi-fung, then President of Hong Kong Baptist College, to return. His decision was driven by his desire to serve his alma mater at a time of crisis, when Hong Kong faced a severe outflow of talents in the wake of the 1967 disturbance. His first task was to rebuild the deserted department of physics, which was left with only one assistant and one lecturer at the time.

Beginning in 1971, Dr Tse served as president of Baptist College (later Baptist University, HKBU) until his retirement in 2001. Under his leadership, the College grew from strength to strength, through the development of many innovative programmes. Dr Tse's unwavering dedication and pioneering leadership led HKBU to achieve many historical milestones: from a private post-secondary college when he took up presidency, to a fully funded public tertiary institution in 1983 and ultimately an institution with university status in 1994. As Emeritus President of HKBU, Dr Tse has retained a strong bond with the University.

On a personal note, I had the privilege of working with Dr Tse in what was then Baptist College in the mid-1980s. As a young academic who assumed headship of the Chinese Department in my early thirties, I was deeply indebted to Dr Tse for his guidance and mentorship, which proved to be invaluable in the decades to come.

Since his retirement, Dr Tse has dedicated his full attention to the development of higher education in his home town of Macao, where he was appointed by the Macao SAR Chief Executive to chair the University Council of the University of Macau from 2001 to 2014. During that period he also took time to develop a Research Centre for the Sustainable Development Strategies for the Macao SAR, and served as its founding director from 2005 to 2010. Dr Tse has just completed a one year service as Advisor of the University Council of the University of Macau, and is still serving as President of the International Society for Chinese Medicine (Macao SAR) and Chair of the Executive Committee of the University of Macau Development Foundation.

Earlier this year, Dr Tse kindly agreed to advise HKIEd in a personal capacity, alongside two other prominent figures in education, regarding possible legislative amendments in relation to our university title. The Institute has benefited greatly from his wealth of knowledge and wise counsel.

Dr Tse's commitment to the field of education has been matched only by his dedication to public service. He was a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils of Hong Kong before the handover, and served as an Advisor to the People's Republic of China on Hong Kong Affairs, a member of the Basic Law Consultative Committee and a member of the Preparatory Committee for the HKSAR of the National People's Congress before the transfer of sovereignty. He served as a Member of the Ninth and the Tenth National Committees of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference from 1998 to 2008.

Dr Tse has also chaired many important government committees, including the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong, the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education, the Advisory Council on Food and Environmental Hygiene, the Bilingual Laws Advisory Committee and the Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC) Advisory Committee on Corruption.

For his distinguished contributions, Dr Tse was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1977. He was honoured with the title of Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 1986 and the title of Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 1991. He was awarded a Gold Bauhinia Star by the Hong Kong SAR Government in 1998, and a Medal of Merit – Education from the Macao SAR Government in 2014. In addition to that from HKIEd, Dr Tse has been awarded nine honorary doctoral degrees and three honorary professorships from distinguished universities in Europe, the US, Australia, Hong Kong and mainland China.

In addition to his career as an esteemed educator actively involved in public service, Dr Tse is also known as the “Poet President” for his prolific output of Chinese poems. On this momentous occasion, I would like to highlight a poem he wrote in 1977 regarding Baptist College's vision and dedication to education, composed after the release of the controversial 1977 Green Paper in which the values of the College and other private institutions were severely undermined. In 1978, then Hong Kong Governor Murray MacLehose visited the College's campus as the officiating guest for the opening of the new Academic Community Hall. At the ceremony, Dr Tse recited from his poem, 學院頌, which means “Ode to the College”. His heartfelt and stirring words brought the audience to tears, and the former Hong Kong governor announced during the ceremony that the Green Paper could be revised, marking a triumphant moment for Baptist College. Since then, the event has continued to occupy a special place in many people's memories, serving as an inspiring reminder of Dr Tse's passion and extraordinary commitment to the cause of education. Originally written in Chinese, the following is a translated excerpt:

To remain faithful towards expectations from society,  
to forge future paths for the next generation,  
as well as to carry forward the finest tradition within our beliefs,  
under a situation where resources are extremely scarce,  
resolutely, they have opened the gate of higher education.

Mr Chairman, Dr Tse's work has contributed tremendously to the higher education sector, and he has demonstrated his unwavering commitment to public service in Hong Kong. It is my pleasure and privilege to present Dr Daniel Tse Chi-wai, and request that you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*.

Citation for DR Elizabeth Wang Ming-chun, SBS  
Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*

Mr Chairman,

Dr Elizabeth Wang Ming-chun is a widely respected Hong Kong artist who has dedicated herself to the performing arts and entertainment industry for nearly half a century. She has been responsible for exciting new developments in Cantonese opera, a traditional art that has encountered considerable difficulties, reviving public awareness of and interest in the art form through her unparalleled drive and tireless commitment. It is my honour today to present Dr Wang for the award of the degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*.

Born in Shanghai, Dr Wang relocated to Hong Kong at the age of nine. Her interest in the performing arts was first inspired by extracurricular activities such as drama, choral singing and speech recitation during her primary and secondary school years. In 1966, Rediffusion (Hong Kong) Limited offered its first artist training programme. Selected from over a thousand candidates, Dr Wang emerged as a rapidly rising star strongly supported by Rediffusion upon completing the programme. Her remarkable career as a performing artist thus began. In 1970, she travelled to Japan to pursue further studies in singing and dancing at the prestigious academy run by Toho Entertainment. It was as exhilarating as it was tough, a formative experience from which she developed important life skills such as being independent.

In 1971, Dr Wang joined Television Broadcasts Limited, where she was engaged in a full range of performances. Apart from being a main host of the long standing variety show *Enjoy Yourself Tonight*, she also appeared in numerous popular drama series and programmes in addition to releasing many successful recordings. Her elegant presence as a host, exceptional talent as an actress and sonorous voice as a singer have been well recognised by the public. Some of the iconic roles she has played include those in *A House Is Not a Home*, *The Heaven Sword and the Dragon Sabre*, *Yesterday's Glitter*, *The Awakening Story*, *Wars of In-laws* and *Limelight Years*, to name but a few. Her two theme songs for TV, "Love and Passion" from the drama of the same name and "The Brave Chinese", have become timeless classics that have enchanted the Chinese-speaking world. Ever dedicated to continuous learning and advancement, Dr Wang has taken part in acclaimed theatre and musical productions in addition to television appearances.

When Cantonese opera master Leung Sing-po saw Dr Wang in Cantonese opera costume, he commented: "So beautiful, you must perform for Cantonese opera." In 1983, Dr Wang and renowned master Lam Ka-sing starred in the canonical opera *Tin Sin Pui* (literally "A Heavenly Match") to popular acclaim, achieving a new box office record. In 1988, Dr Wang and Mr Law Ka-ying co-founded the Boom A Bliss Cantonese Opera Troupe. Although not classically trained in Cantonese opera, Dr Wang demonstrated exceptional determination and put tremendous effort into honing her skills in the art form. She starred in the title role of Muk Kwai-ying, a well-known heroine adapted from a popular work of historical fiction. Her performance was highly commended. Subsequently, the opera troupe presented new works in line with its artistic vision, instilling exciting new elements into the traditional art form, from an adaptation of Shakespearean classics to dramas and other theatre genres. In 2010, the troupe presented *De Ling and Empress Dowager Ci Xi*. While remaining faithful to the essence of Cantonese opera, Dr Wang has also been boldly innovative in many respects, such as by using a set of costumes designed by students of the Hong Kong Design Institute, a design education institution under the Vocational Training Council (VTC). Not only is Boom A Bliss a brand name in Hong Kong's Cantonese opera sector, but it has also borne witness to

the fabled romance of Dr Wang and Mr Law.

In 1992, Dr Wang assumed the position of Chairwoman of the Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong, making her the first woman to have chaired the Association. In addition to re-launching the Association's Cantonese opera academy, she has also led a number of major new projects, including the acquisition of the Association's headquarters through a successful fundraising initiative, securing funding to jointly organise a certificate programme for Cantonese opera training with the School of Continuing and Professional Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The latter signified an exciting new chapter in the development of local talent for Cantonese opera. To date, Dr Wang has served as Chairwoman of the Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong for seven terms, and has dedicated herself to the promotion and continuation of Cantonese opera heritage and education. Some of the Association's most notable initiatives include reforming the Cantonese opera academy in 2007, turning the Association into a registered charitable organisation in 2009, introducing formal Cantonese opera education in junior secondary years in 2010 and jointly offering a full range of Cantonese opera production courses with the VTC in 2011. In 2012, the Cantonese Opera Young Talent Showcase under the Yau Ma Tei Theatre Venue Partnership Scheme was launched. Over the course of three years, more than 100 new artists appeared in over 450 performances across 110 productions, together receiving more than 2,300 training hours.

In addition to her work with the Association, Dr Wang has been involved in many different aspects of the promotion of Cantonese opera. In the 1980s, with the shortage of performance venues and a continual lack of government support, the sector encountered great difficulties in retaining young talent. Dr Wang dedicated great effort to lobbying for the sector through on-going communication with the government. In 1996, she was appointed a committee member of the Arts Development Council. In 2005, Sunbeam Theatre, the only privately operated Cantonese opera performance venue at the time, was due for demolition. Through Dr Wang's mediation, the landlord, the Cantonese opera sector and the government were able to hold candid dialogues, leading to a successful renewal of the lease. To this day, Sunbeam remains an important venue for Cantonese opera in Hong Kong.

Recently, Dr Wang has been actively involved in the work of the Cantonese Opera Advisory Committee. A member of the West Kowloon Cultural District Performing Arts Committee, she is involved in the Committee's planning and development work. With the construction of the Xiqu Centre, the first venue of the West Kowloon Cultural District, due to be completed in 2017, a new chapter for Hong Kong's Xiqu, or Chinese Opera, is eagerly anticipated.

An all-round artist, Dr Wang has received numerous awards over the years, scooping many Gold Albums and Platinum Albums, in addition to winning the 27th Golden Needle Award presented by Radio Television Hong Kong in 2005, the Montblanc de la Culture Arts Patronage Award (Hong Kong District) in 2007, and the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (Hong Kong Group) Limited 45th Anniversary Hall of Fame Award. Her other awards include being selected as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons in Hong Kong in 1981, a Silver Bauhinia Star from the HKSAR government in 2004, an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree from the City University of Hong Kong in 2007, and Honorary Fellowships from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and the Vocational Training Council in 2009 and 2010 respectively.

Her artistic career aside, Dr Wang is actively involved in public service, having served as a founding member of the Zonta Club of the New Territories, Director of the Board of Directors of Po Leung Kuk and Pok Oi Hospital, member of the Board of the Hong Kong

Dance Company, and currently member of the Executive Committee of the Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society. Ever dedicated to the welfare of her motherland, Dr Wang served as a Hong Kong/Macau delegate of the National People's Congress from 1988 to 1997. From 1996 to 1997, she also served as a member of the Preparatory Committee for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and a member of the Selection Committee for the First Government of the Special Administrative Region. Since 1998, she has served as a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, a position that she will hold until 2017.

Dr Wang has modestly attributed her remarkable achievements to “an attitude to equip herself continually, to grasp opportunities as they arise, and to work to her best ability”. Nevertheless, it is apparent that her rigorous, meticulous and disciplined work ethic and a tireless drive to seek self-improvement are the keys to her success.

Mr Chairman, Dr Wang has made tremendous contributions to performing arts and Cantonese opera. It is my pleasure and privilege to present Dr Elizabeth Wang Ming-chun and request that you confer on her the degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*.