

## **Citation for Professor Brian Caldwell Doctor of Education, *honoris causa***

Mr Chancellor,

An internationally renowned scholar, Professor Brian Caldwell has spearheaded progress in education in a variety of countries, campaigning for top-quality teachers for future generations and ensuring that schools are able to govern themselves. He began as a teacher in Australia in 1963 and has made education his life's work, providing leadership at a number of influential institutions and sharing his insights into and experience in academic papers and books. Professor Caldwell comes from a family of teachers, where education was a key topic around the dinner table. He has said that he never considered any other career and that his father was a key influence.

Professor Caldwell is passionate about education, and sees it as key to young people opening up career paths and opportunities for themselves. An extensive career in various countries has allowed Professor Caldwell to witness educational progress and change on several continents. This led to his PhD focus on the decentralisation of decision making in education becoming a theme of his later work. *The Self-managing School* – initially a book and then a series – set out his philosophy and accompanying practices for school-based management. On his return to Australia, he found a number of state governments open to the idea of decentralisation and was delighted that his books were able to influence and guide educational policy in this area in a number of countries and regions, including here in Hong Kong.

Professor Caldwell has stated how he saw himself being a teacher for life, but serendipity had other ideas. He modestly did not anticipate that he would become Dean of Education at the University of Tasmania in the late 1980s and Dean of Education at the University of Melbourne from 1998 to 2004. He also served as President of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders from 1990 to 1993, a body set up 20 years earlier to nurture educational leadership talent and which currently has more than 6,500 members.

His international work over the past 25 years has included more than 500 presentations, projects and professional assignments in or for 40 countries or jurisdictions on six continents.

Professor Caldwell is Managing Director and Principal Consultant at Educational Transformations (Pty Ltd) in Melbourne, Australia, and a Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne. Through his consultancy, he draws on decades of experience to offer services to government departments, schools, colleges and other educational institutions, and provides them with commissioned research and strategic advice. He also develops

programmes in leadership development, and provides strategic support for schools to guide them through transformations within their educational systems.

In his firm belief that teachers must achieve excellence for the sake of future generations, Professor Caldwell has been vocal, particularly in Australia, in emphasising the importance of high standards in teacher education and has voiced his criticism when he felt those standards were being

compromised. He has also emphasised the importance of postgraduate research for educational practitioners so they can not only further their careers, but also learn more about best practices. He is a firm believer that research should be premised on good practice within education, and that is why he co-authors his research books with leading policymakers and practitioners so that the information is current and based on good practice. Within Australia, Professor Caldwell has expressed his opposition to a “one-size-fits-all” model for teaching youngsters with different academic levels and diverse backgrounds, and notes that teachers need to be better prepared to work in challenging circumstances.

Professor Caldwell was chair of the Advisory Board of the Asia Education Foundation from 1998 to 2004. The main vision of the foundation is to enable educators to develop Asia-literate young Australians, providing them with opportunities to engage with their neighbours throughout Asia and gain a wider degree of friendship and mutual understanding. The foundation works to support schools and educators to implement Australia’s engagement with Asia across the curriculum.

Professor Caldwell has also been Wei Lun Visiting Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Visiting Professor at the National College for School Leadership in England, Special Professor at the University of Nottingham, Provost’s Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the University of Southern California and Invitational Research Fellow for the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

During an extensive career, Professor Caldwell has written 180 papers and been the author or co-author of books that have helped to guide educational reform in several countries. He was awarded the Australian Council for Educational Leaders Gold Medal in 1994 and the Council’s Hedley Beare Educator of the Year Award for the Australian state of Victoria in 2004. This is in addition to two prestigious awards from the Australian College of Educators over the past ten years.

Here in Hong Kong, Professor Caldwell has brought his wealth of experience to The Hong Kong Institute of Education. He has been a vital member of the Institute's teaching team for the Master of Educational Management course, sharing his international consultancy skills, global perspective and enthusiasm with students.

In a keynote speech to the Institute back in 2008, Professor Caldwell told 1,000 local leaders that schools needed to collaborate and align education strategies to successfully transform themselves and raise student performance. He set out the challenges that faced educators in a 21st century setting, noting that "concerns of education, economy and society have to be aligned. Schools have to find the right balance between intellectual, social, spiritual and financial capital, and school leaders are required to articulate a compelling vision with passion, strategy and trust".

Mr Chancellor, it is my pleasure and privilege to present Professor Brian Caldwell and request that you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

## **Citation for Dr Rebecca Lee Lok-Sze, Mh - Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa***

Mr Chancellor,

Renowned polar explorer Dr Rebecca Lee Lok-sze has spent more than 25 years travelling to some of the most remote and formidable areas of the world to carry out research and advance global environmental protection. She was the first Chinese woman explorer to reach the Arctic, Antarctica and the Mount Region.

In 1997, Dr Lee founded the Polar Museum Foundation, after which she took up the directorship. Her aim was to consolidate polar research findings from all over the world to help advance global environmental protection. Yet being an explorer was not her first choice of career. Dr Lee obtained a Certificate in Commercial Design from the Hong Kong Technical College (now the Hong Kong Polytechnic University) in 1964 and developed a successful career in design and advertising. She worked for Cathay Pacific's in-flight magazine and also helped to develop tourism in Mainland China. For example, she spearheaded the development of the theme parks Window of the World and Splendid China Miniature Scenic Spot. Then came the turning point.

In 1985, Dr Lee decided to go from being a successful businesswoman to a polar scientist. She was invited to join the national Antarctic expedition to help promote China's new base - The Great Wall Station there. She was overawed by the continent's beauty, and decided to dedicate the rest of her life to protecting and preserving the polar regions.

Some people, she says, were not convinced that this was a sensible move. When interviewed last year by the South China Morning Post to mark her 25 years of polar exploration, Dr Lee explained how in the mid-1980s, "Some people laughed at me, doubting what I could achieve in my expeditions [and saying that] I shouldn't have left the design industry from which I was making money. But this is my life."

Dr Lee has made immense contributions to polar exploration over the past two decades. She has given talks about her polar trips to more than 500,000 students in Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China, highlighting the beauty of the polar regions and the dangers that pollution and global warming are bringing to them. She has tirelessly campaigned for a polar museum to be built in Hong Kong, not only to house thousands of her artifacts, but more importantly to educate young people about the global environment, the beauty of the Arctic and Antarctica, and the environmental dangers faced by those habitats and the animals living there. Dr Lee has also worked hard to convince the local community and the government

about the importance of global environmental protection. Although Hong Kong is very far from the polar regions, those regions will be affected if we do not take good care of our local environment. If the polar ice caps and the snow in the Himalayas continue to melt at the current alarming rate, everyone in the world will be affected.

Former American vice-president Al Gore focused the world's attention on how icebergs were melting in his 2006 documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*, but Dr Lee had already documented this. In 2008, she was heartbroken to find starving polar bears begging for food from her ship, because the melting ice had forced them further north in the Arctic region than usual, away from their customary feeding grounds.

After 25 years of effort, Dr Lee's commitment to polar exploration and environmental protection has not faltered. She has never shied away from travelling extensively in very harsh environments, and has not been intimidated by life-threatening dangers. On one trip up Mount Everest, Dr Lee found herself in the path of a boulder crashing down the mountain, which was fortuitously stopped by a tree. She has a pragmatic attitude towards life and death, and this in no way stopped her from continuing her expeditions. In 2004, she faced and overcame colon cancer, a result she says of the polluted water that she drank in the polar regions.

Dr Lee has travelled more than 18 times to the Arctic and Antarctica, and has climbed Mount Everest four times. She is a talented photographer and designer, and with those skills has published a large number of books and articles on her expeditions. She has also produced photographic essays and television documentaries to share her insights and adventures. She is known as Hong Kong's "Queen of Ice".

Dr Lee has served as an Adviser (Science) for the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of the HKSAR Government and the Polar Research Committee of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. She received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Lingnan University in 2000, the Outstanding PolyU Alumni Award in 2003, and University Fellow of PolyU in 2009, in recognition of her life-long devotion to polar research and environmental education.

Dr Lee's lofty vision echoes the Institute's aspiration of nurturing professionally competent, socially caring and globally aware students, as articulated in our Education-plus vision. She is a shining example to us all, as someone who knows what she wants to do with her life and sets off to accomplish it with tenacity and courage. Dr Lee is also a superb role model for our young people

- a person who dares to dream the impossible dream, and to uncover the unexplored.

Mr Chancellor, it is my pleasure and privilege to present Dr Rebecca Lee Lok-sze and request that you confer on her the degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*.

## **Citation for Mr Edwin Leong Siu-Hung - Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa***

Mr Chancellor,

A noted philanthropist, Mr Edwin Leong Siu-hung makes many of his donations in honour of his father, the late Mr Henry G Leong. He has a deep personal commitment to social issues faced by Hong Kong society, particularly children and the elderly. His compassion is reflected in how he offers educational opportunities, provides healthcare for the deprived and relief from suffering for those in desperate need through his Tai Hung Fai Charity Foundation.

Mr Leong has earned respect from the health care community through his unfailing support for research and evidence-based practice. In 2008, he established the Henry G Leong Mobile Integrative Health Centre, which provides free health screening and monitoring services to disadvantaged elderly throughout Hong Kong. Mr Leong also supports academic research in elderly health care. He established the Henry G Leong Professorship in Social Work and Social Administration, the Henry G Leong Gerontology and Geriatrics Endowed Professorship, and the Henry G Leong Endowed Professorship in Neurology at various local universities. These endowments and professorships provide the necessary funding for researchers to investigate nutritional strategies and living environments for successful ageing, and neurological disorders afflicting the elderly. Such studies would have been difficult without Mr Leong's generous support.

At the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, Mr Leong founded the Circle of Care – A Holistic Community Care Programme for Elders with Dementia, which provides services to patients and caregivers and performs screening tests. The programme also enhances public awareness of dementia and sensitivity towards dementia prognosis. As the Patron of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation, Mr Leong has helped low-income women gain access to mammogram screening through the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals.

Mr Leong's philanthropic work goes beyond Hong Kong. Since 2007, he has supported the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation. He pays the school tuition fees and living expenses of 550 university students and 300 high school students in China. In addition, he has donated around 6,000 care packages with the stationery needed for study to primary school students in China. Mr Leong also runs programmes in China to help repair and rebuild schools in remote villages. Locally, he initiated the Edwin SH Leong Hughes Hall Scholarship to foster cultural and intellectual exchange between students from the University of Cambridge and the University of Hong Kong. Students receive grants that cover their university fees plus living

expenses.

Caring for the poor in Hong Kong is another of Mr Leong's important tasks. The Tai Hung Fai Charity Foundation offers subsidised food bank emergency assistance for six weeks to people in need. In 2010 alone, 155 people benefited from the scheme.

Mr Leong is a founding member of the Adventist Paediatric Heart Fund, the objective of which is to help underprivileged children who suffer from congenital heart disease. With the Fund's support,

children who have had timely heart operations can grow and live like other children. Thus Mr Leong's assistance provides much more than just immediate relief.

Mr Leong has also heavily contributed to other community services in his roles as Honorary Advisor to the Hong Kong Parkinson's Disease Foundation and Director and former Vice Chairman of Po Leung Kuk.

In his own life, Mr Leong has not always had things easy. He has faced many hardships in business, but the power of gratitude keeps him going because it is a blessing to have the opportunity to create a better life for others. Despite financial problems at one stage, he observed that some elderly people attending the Hong Kong Ling Liang Church had difficulty climbing the stairs, so he donated money anonymously to build a lift. This noble act certainly warmed the hearts of many churchgoers.

The Sutra of Innumerable Meanings describes the bodhisattva as "going without needing to be asked". The bodhisattva not only provides aid in times of need, but does so on his or her own initiative. In giving help, the bodhisattva does so in a way that gives people a sense of respect, security, peace and happiness. Like the bodhisattva, Mr Leong is committed to supporting others before they cry out for help. His noble acts nourish the seeds of goodness within others, and he changes their worlds. He deserves recognition and high praise for his selfless giving.

Mr Chancellor, it is my privilege and pleasure to present Mr Edwin Leong Siu-hung for the award of the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*.

## **Citation for Professor Geoff Whitty, Cbe - Doctor of Education, *honoris causa***

Mr Chancellor,

It is my honour to present Professor Geoff Whitty, for the award of the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*. As a world-renowned scholar in the sociology of school curricula, education policy, teacher education and health education, Professor Whitty has led evaluations of major educational reforms and has assisted schools and local authorities in building capacity for improvement. One of Britain's leading education-policy analysts, he has advanced and made enormous contributions to the field of education worldwide throughout a distinguished career of more than four decades.

Professor Whitty is Director Emeritus of the Institute of Education, University of London. He served as a special advisor to successive House of Commons Education Select Committees in the United Kingdom between 2005 and 2012. He is currently teaching in the Business School at the University of Bath as Professor of Public Sector Policy and Management. He has been serving as a member of the Board of the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) in the United Kingdom since August 2011, and is a member of the Higher Education Commission.

Among the numerous awards and recognitions for his contributions to society and education, Professor Whitty received a CBE for services to teacher education in the 2011 Queen's Birthday Honours List. He was also awarded the very first Lady Plowden Memorial Medal in 2009, in recognition of his outstanding services to education.

Prior to his appointment as Director Emeritus of the Institute of Education (IOE), University of London, he served as the IOE's Director for ten years from 2000 to 2010. According to Lady Elizabeth Vallance, the IOE Council's former chairperson who worked with Professor Whitty for many years, he has "led the Institute through a period in which it both expanded its vision and delivered on its global ambitions. Under his leadership, the Institute gained the power to award its own degrees in 2007, and, with its outstanding performance in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, has been recognised as one of the foremost research institutions in the country". It is under his leadership that the London Institute of Education is leading in education and social sciences research and learning. Indeed, upon Professor Whitty's retirement, IOE was conducting over 30% of all education research carried out in universities in the United Kingdom.

Professor Whitty's long and esteemed career began with his education at St. John's College,

Cambridge University, before he completed his teacher training and postgraduate education at the Institute of Education, University of London. He then taught in primary and secondary schools from 1969 until 1973, before becoming a lecturer in Education at the University of Bath from 1973 until 1980, and lecturer at King's College London from 1981 to 1984.

In 1985 he was appointed Head, Professor and Dean of Education at Bristol Polytechnic, now known as the University of the West of England (UWE). In 2001, UWE awarded Professor Whitty an Honorary Doctorate of Education. From 1990 to 1992, he was Professor of Policy and Management in Education at Goldsmiths College. In 1992, he was appointed Karl Mannheim Professor of the Sociology of Education at the IOE in London, a position he held until he assumed the Directorship in 2000.

In addition to his distinguished academic career, Professor Whitty has contributed tremendously to the professional community. He was formerly Chair of the British Council's Education and Training Advisory Committee and President of the British Educational Research Association. He also served as President of the College of Teachers and was a member of the General Teaching Council for England from 2003 to 2012. His significant contributions have earned him various titles and awards. He was on the Honours list of the Academy of Social Sciences in 2011, and was named a Leading Thinker by the United Kingdom's National Education Trust. He has been Visiting Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the USA and the University of Canterbury in New Zealand and an Honorary Professor at Beijing Normal University, Northwest Normal University and Xinjiang Normal University in China.

As a leading researcher in education policy and management, Professor Whitty focuses a substantial part of his research on the inclusion of previously neglected groups in the formation and realisation of education policies, a cause that he has long championed. He has directed research projects funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) on the impact of education policies, including the assisted places scheme, city technology colleges, education action zones and changes in initial teacher education.

In 2008, Professor Whitty led the IOE in providing academic support for a collaborative project organised by the British Council and supported by the Education Bureau in Hong Kong. Entitled *Connecting Classrooms – Student Voice*, the project brought together education professionals from the two cultures, exploring ways to empower students to play more active roles in education. His current research includes studies of the interface between schools and higher education and of the practice of international policy borrowing. Professor Whitty's notable publications include *Making Sense of Education Policy* (2002) and his

co-authored *Education and the Middle Class* (2003), which won the Society for Educational Studies book prize in 2004. The book was also published in Chinese by McGraw Hill.

Under Professor Whitty's leadership, the IOE formalised its long-standing relationship with the Institute in 2010, and paved the way for the development of research links and collaborative degrees at the postgraduate level. With his profound knowledge and preeminent status in education and education-related fields, Professor Whitty provided the Institute with invaluable insights as it pursued the advancement of selected areas of specialisation in research and other forms of student and staff collaboration. To this day, the two institutions have maintained a close partnership, most notably in such programmes as the International Executive Master of Arts (IEMA) in Educational Leadership and Change, and the series of exciting exchanges most recently at the Going Global 2012 Conference.

Mr Chancellor, it is my pleasure and privilege to present Professor Geoff Whitty, and request that you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

## **Citation for Professor Zhong Binglin Doctor of Education, *honoris causa***

Mr Chancellor,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you Professor Zhong Binglin, a renowned educator in China who has dedicated his life to educating the next generation and promoting the development of higher education policy and scientific research. Other than spearheading many important educational development programmes across China, Professor Zhong has made immense contributions by advancing educational collaboration and exchange within the region.

Born in Beijing in 1951, Professor Zhong graduated from Southeast University (formerly the Nanjing Institute of Technology) in 1977. He went on to study for a Master's degree in Engineering at the university, graduating in 1987. While studying in Britain, he was twice asked to return to China, first to assume the Associate Deanship and then the Deanship of Southeast University's Department of Mechanical Engineering. In 1992, he was promoted to Professor at the university, before gaining his PhD at the University of Wales in 1994. When he returned to China the same year, he was appointed Vice President of Southeast University. In 1996, he was promoted to Director General of the Department of Higher Education at the Ministry of Education. From 2001 to 2012, he was President of Beijing Normal University, which has "Learn, so as to instruct others, Act, to serve as example to all" as its motto. In 2012 he assumed his position as President of the Chinese Society of Education.

Since becoming the President of Beijing Normal University in 2001, Professor Zhong has actively promoted collaboration between it and The Hong Kong Institute of Education in initiatives ranging from student internships to academic exchanges and visits. These have not only promoted stronger bonds and mutual understanding between the two institutions, but they have also boosted the development of higher education and academic excellence within the region.

When he was a secondary school student, Professor Zhong was "sent down" to a farming village near Yan'an city in Shaanxi province. This was during the "Down to the Countryside Movement" in the late 1960s and early 1970s when young people from urban areas were sent to mountains or farming areas to learn from impoverished farm workers. It was there, in a makeshift cave classroom, that Professor Zhong had his first teaching experience. This episode was to have a profound impact on his life and become a driving force in his mission of education. In Issue 7 of *Education and Vocation*, published in 2008, Professor Zhong highlighted that of all his professional titles, "teacher" meant the most to him. He reminisced,

describing being “sent down” as a most cherished experience in his life. “Having gone through such struggles and hardships, I learned to be forgiving”, he said. “I learned to treat people and deal with events calmly, and to confront adversities with perseverance. This attitude has helped me tremendously throughout the years, be I a teacher, director general or a president.” He continued: “I realised that to be a good manager, I needed to rely on more than just the system or my ability and passion. I must demonstrate through my work the belief in a people-oriented culture; build an organisation with good team spirit through charisma; and develop an ambience of mutual care, understanding and humanity concern”.

During his tenure as Director General of the Department of Higher Education, Professor Zhong was committed to driving reforms in higher education management systems, curricula and the framework of the teaching and learning. Through his efforts, the decision-making and implementation process of quality assurance and evaluation in undergraduate education were greatly enhanced. As President of Beijing Normal University, grounded in his belief of “driving academic excellence in selected areas” and attaching great importance to innovative education with a clear vision, Professor Zhong guided the university through its transformation into a comprehensive research university that emphasises teacher education, educational science and the arts and sciences.

Despite his demanding schedule as an administrator, Professor Zhong still devotes time to scientific research and teaching and mentoring students. Since the 1980s, he has been involved in the teaching of and research into machine fault diagnosis. From the 1990s onwards, he has focused his research on higher education management and educational policies. In recent years, Professor Zhong has headed key research projects commissioned by, among others, the Ministry of Education in the areas of philosophy and social science, as well as educational projects for the National Fund for Social Science. He has also overseen 12 projects commissioned by the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, and Beijing Municipality. Currently, he is overseeing a major project for the National Science Foundation entitled “Theory and Major Issues of Chinese Educational Resources Distribution”.

Professor Zhong has published more than 80 papers in academic journals such as *Educational Research*, *Higher Education Research* and *Higher Education in China*. He is also the editor of six books, including *An Atlas of Development of Higher Education in China*, *Paradigm Shift of Teacher Education*, *Reform of Higher Education in China* and *Education of Creative Talents*, and *Machine Fault Diagnosis*. He has taught eight undergraduate and postgraduate courses, and has supervised more than 20 doctoral and master’s students. He is currently supervising five PhD students.

Professor Zhong has dedicated his life to education and serves on many committees and organisations. Among his many capacities, he is the 7th president of the Chinese Society of Education, a member of both the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and its subcommittee for education, science, culture, health and sport affairs, and a member of both the Academic Degree Committee of the State Council and its subcommittee for mechanical engineering degree evaluation. He is vice president of the Chinese Education Association for International Exchange, a member of National Steering Committee for Education Examination, a member of the National Consultative Committee for Curriculum and Teaching Material in Basic Education, chief committeeman of the National Steering Committee for Degree Education in Educational Science, and chairman of the subcommittee for education evaluation of the China Association of Higher Education. Outside China, Professor Zhong serves as honorary vice president at Cardiff University, as an honorary professor at Aalborg University in Denmark and as a non-local member of the Hong Kong Council for the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications.

Mr Chancellor, it is my pleasure and privilege to present Professor Zhong Binglin and request that you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.