

**Citation for Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-Leung, GBS, JP**  
**Doctor of Education, *Honoris Causa***

Madame Chancellor,

It is my honour to present Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung for the award of the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

A renowned scholar of governance and public administration and a policymaker, Professor Cheung has had an illustrious career in academia, education and the public sector, spanning more than four decades. We are deeply indebted to Professor Cheung for his bold vision and strategic leadership during his tenure as the President of the former Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd) from 2008 to 2012, a period of critical and significant transformation, which led to the establishment of The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK).

Born in Hong Kong in the early 1950s, Professor Cheung benefited from a liberal learning environment during his secondary school and university life. An exuberant adolescent and young adult, he was exposed to and fascinated by different schools of thought, as well as political and religious ideologies, especially Marxism and Liberation Theology, which were popular among educated youth at the time. He passionately hoped to bring change to society through critical thinking and participation in social movements as a student leader.

After graduating from The University of Hong Kong in 1974 with a BSocSc (Hons) degree in Sociology and Economics, he landed at a job in the civil service and rose to the rank of Senior Executive Officer. He pursued further studies in the United Kingdom in the early 1980s, earning an MSc degree in Public Sector Management from the University of Aston in 1983. Imbued with growing interest in academic research, Professor Cheung embarked on an academic career in Hong Kong in 1986 and received a PhD in Government from The London School of Economics and Political Science in 1995.

Professor Cheung has been a prolific writer and researcher in the fields of governance and public administration, civil service studies, administrative reforms and politics. He has published 10 books, 50 refereed journal articles, over 50 book chapters and numerous conference papers. He has served on editorial boards of renowned academic journals in the United States and the United Kingdom. In 2001, he founded the Asian Forum on Public Management, together with experts and scholars in the region, which later became the Asian Association of Public Administration. He also served as member and Chairman of the Charles Levine Prize Committee of the top journal *Governance* from 2010 to 2011.

His association with HKIEd can be traced back to the mid-1990s, when he was Chairman of the Legislative Council's Education Panel, a position that kept him well informed of the Institute's developments during its early stages. However, a mix of serendipity, hesitation and dilemma came into play when he was invited twice to consider leading the Institute. Struggling to weigh his much-loved research work against HKIEd's presidency, he chose the latter because of his belief in the unique mission of the Institute and its important role in society.

On his first working day at the Institute in January 2008, Professor Cheung pledged to put the university title pursuit as his top priority. It was clear to Professor Cheung and the Institute from

the very outset that a stand-alone option, rather than an integration model, was the best way forward for HKIEd, amid all the foreseeable challenges and possible obstacles. Building on the Institute's *Development Blueprint*, released earlier in 2007, and making reference to the recommendations of the University Grants Committee (UGC)'s Review Group, in 2009 he drew up the *Strategic Plan 2009-12 and Beyond* with input from the HKIEd community and other stakeholders to take forward the quest for university title.

Among the many new strategic initiatives outlined in the *Strategic Plan*, Professor Cheung advocated the adoption of the Education-plus approach – a robust response to the Institute's mono-technic past without drifting from its core mission. This concept allowed HKIEd to focus on its core teacher education mission while at the same time introducing a new spread of multidisciplinary subject areas complementary to education to enhance its academic diversity. This worked well for the Institute and subsequently for EdUHK, and this will remain our guiding approach in the next decade.

Under his leadership, HKIEd strengthened its academic breadth and depth by greatly expanding the number of Professors and Chair Professors. Adding to HKIEd's traditionally strong education degree programmes, Professor Cheung secured new resources from the UGC to introduce new subject areas, including psychology, environmental studies, art, the humanities and social sciences. HKIEd also expanded into postgraduate education with the establishment of the Graduate School in 2010 and its first research postgraduate programmes (including doctoral degrees). In the same spirit, he spared no effort in enhancing the Institute's research capacity, with equal emphasis on quality assurance, while promoting a vibrant academic atmosphere and scholarly activities. All these endeavours laid a solid foundation for the transformation of the Institute and the birth of EdUHK.

In addition to his HKIEd role, Professor Cheung helped found two policy think-tanks, and was a member of the Legislative Council and Executive Council, Chairman of the Consumer Council, and Chairman of the Civil Service Pay Trend Survey Committee, among other roles. He was also a founding vice chairman of the Democratic Party. He humbly attributes this commitment and selfless dedication to an altruistic obligation grounded in his religious faith during younger days. He was the Secretary for Transport and Housing as well as Chairman of the Hong Kong Housing Authority from 2012 to 2017, overseeing a wide spectrum of policy areas, including aviation, land and maritime transport, the port, logistics as well as housing.

Madame Chancellor, Professor Cheung has dedicated himself to academia, public service and, above all, the transformation of HKIEd into an education-focused, multidisciplinary university with strong research capacity. He made a tremendous and indispensable contribution to HKIEd's transformation to a university.

It is my privilege and pleasure to present Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung and to request that you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

**Citation for Dr Rita Fan-Hsu Lai-Tai, GBM, GBS, JP**  
**Doctor of Social Sciences, *Honoris Causa***

Madame Chancellor,

It is my honour to present Dr Rita Fan-Hsu Lai-tai for the award of the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*. An outstanding and well-known figure, Dr Fan's decades-long contributions span the spheres of education, politics, charity and community welfare, both in Hong Kong and Mainland China. In all areas, the political arena in particular, she has proven to be a pioneer for women, showing that the fairer sex does possess the wisdom and ability to break through the glass ceiling of power. Beyond Hong Kong, she has also made contributions to the wellbeing of people in the Mainland.

Here in Hong Kong, the significant development of education in the 1990s owed much to Dr Fan's exemplary leadership. The University is especially indebted to her for her farsighted vision of the need to enhance the quality of teacher education, and for her instrumental role in the establishment of our predecessor The Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd).

As an infant, Dr Fan's life bore witness to the history of post-war China. Born in 1945, she came to Hong Kong from Shanghai with her family at the age of four. She attended St Stephen's Girls' College, where her love of education was nurtured. She won first prize in Chemistry at The University of Hong Kong, where she studied for a first degree in Physics and Chemistry (1964-1967). She then began her career in the Appointments Service of The University of Hong Kong working as a career counsellor. She concurrently studied Psychology and received a Master's degree in Social Sciences (1973). Dr Fan's work in tertiary institutions allowed her to develop insight into the local education system, both in terms of its merits and areas that require improvement. Her profound contribution to education is best illustrated in her roles as both the Chairman of the Board of Education (1986-1989) and Chairman of the Education Commission (1990-1992). In 1992, with the publication of the famous Education Commission Report No. 5, a series of reforms with a far-reaching impact on education were unveiled.

In the Report, the Commission held this view: "We therefore consider that the most positive option would be to upgrade the colleges and ILE into an autonomous Institute of Education, ... we make detailed recommendations for achieving this as soon as possible." (Chapter 5, Paragraph 5.13). And so the proposal was taken forward and turned into reality – HKIEd was established in 1994, through the amalgamation of the five Colleges of Education.

For all the changes she brought to education under her visionary leadership, Dr Fan could never have fathomed how it would take her to the uncharted waters of politics. She recalled that in 1983, much to her surprise, she was invited by the then Hong Kong governor Sir Edward Youde to join the Legislative Council as an appointed member. She pondered over the offer, and consulted her beloved husband who encouraged her to take up the challenge. Once the decision was made, it opened a new chapter of over three decades of public service on the political arena. At the start of her political career, she served as a member of both the Legislative Council (1983- 1992) and Executive Council (1989-1992). In 1997, she became the first woman to head Hong Kong's parliamentary-style body, when she became President of the then Provisional Legislative Council. Dr Fan continued in her role as LegCo President until 2008, and still holds the record as the longest serving President in the Council's history.

During her tenure as LegCo President, the legislature and Hong Kong as a whole became increasingly politicised. In the face of challenges, Dr Fan was praised for her fortitude, which she attributed to her academic background. She commented that the chemical experiments she conducted as an undergraduate student turned out to be of great help in her role at the LegCo. The experiments, very often performed repeatedly, demanded the utmost patience and objectivity, and adherence to the strictest procedures to produce accurate findings. She drew on that experience in her political career to ensure that her personal feelings would not interfere with her role as President so that she could maintain her objectivity. Her tolerance of differing views, sometimes articulated rudely, and her ability to maintain a neutral stance, made it possible for all voices to be heard, even though they were very diverse. The ways in which she handled controversies with firmness and a broad mind won Dr Fan wide respect across all political parties.

With the same spirit, Dr Fan participated in the Preparatory Committee for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (1995-1997), and in the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China since 1998. Currently, she is the only member from Hong Kong serving on the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

Beyond the political arenas in Hong Kong and the Mainland, Dr Fan has also been active in social service, health and charity work. Among other roles, she is Chairman of the Management Committee of Endeavour Education Centre, and the Patron of the Hong Kong Transplant Sports Association. She is also the first female steward of the Hong Kong Jockey Club in its 150-year history. Among her numerous accolades, Dr Fan received the Grand Bauhinia Medal (GBM) in 2007 and a number of honorary doctorate degrees from universities in Hong Kong and Mainland China.

In her private life, Dr Fan has bravely fought her own personal battles. In 1995, her daughter suffered from renal failure and Dr Fan gave her one of her own kidneys. In 2001, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent a mastectomy. As a cancer survivor, she is now serving as the Honorary President of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation. When her husband passed away in 2004, though grief-stricken, she continued her work as President of the LegCo without any break.

Madame Chancellor, for her exemplary service to the people of Hong Kong and Mainland China, her tireless dedication for the betterment of local education, and her excellent work for the benefit of our community, it is my privilege and pleasure to present Dr Rita Fan-Hsu Lai-tai, and request that you confer on her the degree of the Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*.

**Citation for Professor Andy Hargreaves**  
**Doctor of Education, *Honoris Causa***

Madame Chancellor,

It is my honour to present Professor Andy Hargreaves for the award of the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*. An esteemed scholar and educator, Professor Hargreaves is the Thomas More Brennan Chair in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College in the United States. His academic research in teacher development and advocacy of leadership and change has had a profound impact on education systems in North America and around the world. As a leading authority in his field and an influential author, he has made a tremendous contribution to the sustainable advancement of education, school leadership and collaboration, and to the professional empowerment of educators.

Andy Hargreaves grew up in the small textile and engineering town of Accrington, in Lancashire, England, as the youngest of three brothers. He became the first in his extended family to enter higher education and studied sociology at the University of Sheffield, obtaining his first degree in 1972. He then became a primary school teacher before his growing interest in education led him to further his university studies. He began lecturing on the subject in several English universities, including the University of Oxford, earned a PhD in sociology at the University of Leeds in 1985, and has worked in the field of education ever since.

With his multi-faceted research interests, Professor Hargreaves has made fundamental, foundational, theoretical and empirical contributions to the understanding of teaching and teacher development. These include the emotions of teaching and the idea of professional capital, global movements of educational change, and the importance and influence of sustainable and uplifting leadership.

He moved to Canada in 1987 and became Associate Professor and then Professor in the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) in the Graduate School of the University of Toronto. His long-held aspiration to bring real changes to education systems through knowledge based on evidence and research led him in 1997 to found the International Centre for Educational Change at OISE in partnership with a multidisciplinary group of scholars and experienced practitioners. It has become an important forum for the study of educational change and reform, initiating and advocating improvements. It is also a community of interdisciplinary scholars with world-class intellectual reputations and credibility in the field, which supports educational developments locally and internationally in schools, school systems and other professional organisations.

Professor Hargreaves is committed to promoting social justice in schools, having served the field in professional, academic editorial and advisory capacities in his current country of residence, the United States, and around the world. He has authored or edited more than 30 books, and his works have been translated into many languages. His writings have earned him prestigious awards from organisations such as the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the American Educational Research Association, the American Library Association and the International Leadership Association. Among others, his book *Professional Capital: Transforming Teaching in Every School*, co-written with Michael Fullan, has won three prizes, including the 2015 Grawemeyer Award in Education. His most recent book, *Uplifting Leadership*, co-authored with Alan Boyle and Alma Harris and published in 2014, provides research-based insights into

how leaders can be empowered to create high-performing organisations in the fields of education, sports and business.

Currently, he is President of the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement, the founding Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Professional Capital and Community*, and Adviser in Education to the Premier of Ontario, Canada, and to the First Minister of Scotland. He has held visiting professorships in universities around the world, including the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Japan and Singapore. In Hong Kong, he is a Distinguished Visiting Professor at The University of Hong Kong.

The rules of the world are changing. It is time for the rules of teaching and teachers' work to change with them. Teaching is a never-ending story. The work is never over; the job is never done." Such remarks of his reflect Professor Hargreaves's life-long dedication and unwavering determination to bring about positive changes in education, something he has tirelessly worked for throughout his entire career.

Well-known as a sharp critic of, and a solutions provider for, systematic failure and skewed reforms, Professor Hargreaves is in constant demand as a consultant by governments, foundations, teacher unions and other groups associated with education. The Education Week has ranked him among the top 10 scholars with the most influence in the education policy debate in the United States. He has also addressed international organisations such as the World Bank, the OECD, UNESCO and the European Union, and has conducted staff development training in 37 US states, 42 countries and all Australian states and Canadian provinces.

In 2015, Boston College awarded him its Excellence in Teaching with Technology Award, and in 2016 he was honoured with the Horace Mann Award in the United States and the Robert Owen Award in Scotland in recognition of his contributions to teaching and education. He is also a Fellow of the United Kingdom's Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, and holds an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Uppsala in Sweden.

Madame Chancellor, Professor Hargreaves has made a tremendous contribution globally to teaching, teacher development, and educational leadership and change with his distinguished academic career and through service to the education sector spanning more than four decades. His writing, research and teaching have helped bring about positive changes in education systems worldwide, benefiting countless teachers, learners, and professional and educational organisations around the world.

It is my privilege and pleasure to present Professor Andy Hargreaves and to request that you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

**Citation for Dr Thomas Leung Kwok-Fai, BBS, JP**  
**Doctor of Education, *Honoris Causa***

Madame Chancellor,

It is my honour to present Dr Thomas Leung Kwok-fai for the award of the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

A leading expert in business strategy, organisation change and leadership development, Dr Leung has over the past 35 years built a distinguished consulting career advising governments and major local and multinational conglomerates. Dr Leung holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Business Administration from the University of Illinois. From 1988 to 1994, he was the Chief Executive-Asia of Hay Group, one of the world's leading management consulting firms. He founded Vision In Business Consulting in 1995, a consultancy firm that over the years conducted projects for many large corporations and organisations in Hong Kong and Asia, including the Mass Transit Railway Corporation, The Airport Authority Hong Kong, Orient Overseas Container Line, Sun Microsystems and Mitsubishi Corporation.

Outside his distinguished career, he has been passionately committed and selflessly dedicated to public service. Education has been close to his heart, with much of his time devoted to the development of our predecessor, The Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd).

As a member of the Provisional Council of the then HKIEd, Dr Leung contributed his expertise and experience to setting up a brand-new teacher education institution through the amalgamation of five Colleges of Education in line with the recommendations of the Education Commission Report No. 5. When HKIEd was set up in 1994, he was formally appointed to its Council and since then served with total dedication for 15 straight years, making invaluable contributions in different capacities, including Member, Deputy Chairman and Chairman, and on various committees, including the Council's Standing Committee, Staffing Committee and Honorary Degrees Committee, the Council's Professorial Appointments Committee and the Superannuation Scheme Management Committee.

During his Chairmanship from 2003 to 2009, HKIEd underwent significant transformations and progress, especially in the attainment of self-accreditation status for education programmes in 2004, the launch of the Master of Education programme in 2005 and the Doctor of Education programme in 2007, which were key milestones in HKIEd's strategic development.

In mid-2007, HKIEd's Development Blueprint was promulgated, launching a decade-long university title journey which bore fruit in 2016 with the establishment of The Education University of Hong Kong. Dr Leung also chaired the Search Committee for the President in 2007, which recommended to the Council the appointment of Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung as President the following year.

Besides his HKIEd's capacities, Dr Leung also contributed to the development of teaching professionalism and the higher education sector in Hong Kong through his service in a number of government committees and university councils from the 1990s to early 2000s. He was a member of the Higher Education Review Steering Committee commissioned by the Education and Manpower Bureau. He was also a Council member of The Hong Kong University of Science

and Technology and Hong Kong Baptist University, as well as a member of the Council on Professional Conduct in Education.

At the community level, Dr Leung is a highly regarded and prominent figure, having held significant positions in public organisations and committees, including the Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong government, the Public Service Commission, the Standing Committee on Directorate Salaries and Conditions of Service, the Independent Commission on Remuneration for Members of the Executive Council and the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government, and the Barristers' Disciplinary Tribunal Panel.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to public service, Dr Leung was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1996 and was awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star in 2001.

Madame Chancellor, Dr Leung has demonstrated unwavering dedication to serving the education sector and the wider community through his leadership, expertise and commitment. As far as this University is concerned, Dr Leung played a pivotal role in the birth of our predecessor, paving the way for its subsequent transformations and development into what we are today.

It is my privilege and pleasure to present Dr Thomas Leung Kwok-fai and to request that you confer on him the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.

**Citation for Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh**  
**Doctor o Humanities, *Honoris Causa***

Madame Chancellor,

It is my honour to present Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh for the award of the degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*. A global spiritual leader, Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh has been a lifelong advocate of mindfulness, peace and self-meditation. He has established spiritual communities around the world to promote inner transformation for the benefit of individuals, communities and societies. His influential teachings, writings and retreat centres have transcended borders and religions.

Born in central Vietnam in 1926, he became a novice monk in the Tu Hieu Temple at the age of 16. As a young monk, he was actively engaged in renewing Buddhism in Vietnam. He studied secular subjects at university and became one of the first six monks in his home country to ride bicycle. When the Vietnam War broke out, Master Nhat Hanh founded the "Engaged Buddhism" movement to help victims of war and advocate for peace and compassion to end conflicts, and together with the School of Youth for Social Service, a grassroots relief organisation he founded, helped rebuild bombed villages, set up schools and medical centres, resettle homeless families and organise agricultural cooperatives. His determination and dedication to humanitarian work and peace activism greatly impressed American civil rights activist Dr Martin Luther King Jr., who called Master Nhat Hanh "an apostle of peace and non-violence" and nominated him for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1967. While in exile in France, he continued his work to alleviate the suffering of refugees, including the Vietnamese boat people, political prisoners, and families in famine, serving those in Vietnam and beyond.

Approaching the grand age of 90, Master Nhat Hanh in recent years led spiritual events for members of the United States Congress and for legislators and government officials in the United Kingdom, Ireland, India and Thailand, to name just a few. He has also addressed major international organisations, including UNESCO, the World Health Organisation, and the World Parliament of Religions, among others. On his visit to the United States in 2013, he led mindfulness events at Google, the World Bank, and the Harvard School of Medicine. At an invitation of His Holiness Pope Francis, he took part in a historic event in December 2014 at the Vatican, signing a statement to call on the United Nations to eradicate human trafficking and slavery globally.

Along with his respected reputation as a gentle and humble monk, Master Nhat Hanh is also a world-renowned poet, author and artist. He has written over 100 titles on meditation, mindfulness, living peace, and Engaged Buddhism, as well as numerous poems, children's stories and commentaries on ancient Buddhist texts, and propagated Buddhist teachings at various universities around the world. In the 1960s, he taught comparative religion and conducted research at Princeton University and Columbia University in the United States. In the 1970s, he was a lecturer and researcher in Buddhism at the University of Sorbonne in France.

In 1982, Master Nhat Hanh founded Plum Village near Bordeaux in southwestern France to realise his dream of creating a healthy, nourishing environment where people can learn the art of living in harmony with one another and with the earth. Plum Village has since become the

largest and most active Buddhist monastery in the West, with over 200 resident monastics and almost 8,000 visitors a year who come to learn “the art of mindful living”.

“The present moment is filled with joy and happiness. If you are attentive, you will see it.” This remark from Master Nhat Hanh well illustrates the mindfulness theme that is weaved into his teachings and the daily activities conducted in Plum Village, a simple environment in which to cultivate Bodhicitta, or the mind of awakening.

Outside France, Master Nhat Hanh has established other monasteries and mindfulness practice centres in America, Europe and Asia, including Europe’s first Institute of Applied Buddhism in Germany. It is estimated that over 45,000 people participate in activities led by Plum Village monks and nuns in the United States and Europe every year. For the education sector, the “Wake Up Schools” programme has been launched to train teachers to teach mindfulness in schools in different parts of the world.

In terms of The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK), we have a special connection with Master Nhat Hanh. During his several teaching trips to Hong Kong to promote mindfulness and to spread love and peace, retreats and walking meditations specially designed for educators, parents and students in the city were held on the campus of the then Hong Kong Institute of Education, the predecessor of EdUHK, in 2007, 2010, 2013.

Since 2007, the Centre for Religious and Spirituality Education’s partnership with the Plum Village Mindfulness Practice Centre (now Plum Village Mindfulness Academy), the educational unit of Plum Village Foundation Hong Kong, has resulted in regular “Day Of Mindfulness” programmes and served education professionals, school administrators, parents and students of all backgrounds.

Master Nhat Hanh has dedicated his entire life to propagating peace and spiritual values. With his deep understanding of traditional Buddhist principles and the practice of morality, he has strived to address contemporary social issues and world conflicts through compassion and peace. A truly passionate, revered and beloved spiritual leader, his powerful teachings and thought-provoking writings on mindfulness and meditation have had a profound influence on countless individuals around the world.

Madame Chancellor, it is my sincere pleasure and privilege to present Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh, and request that you confer on him, in absentia, the degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*.