

Honorary Fellow Dr Haywood Cheung

Citation written and delivered by Dr John Leung Wai-keung

Chairman of the Council and President:

Dr Haywood Cheung, hailed as “King of Gold” by his professional peers, has over thirty years of experience in financial services industries, including precious metals trading, securities, futures brokerage and forex dealing. He is the former Chairman of Simsen International Corporation Limited and the current Chairman of Target Insurance (Holdings) Limited. As the Permanent Honorary President of the Chinese Gold & Silver Exchange Society, he leads 60 members to establish business in the Pilot Free Trade Zone of Qianhai, Shenzhen with a gold industry development programme that earned them a place in the “Top 10 Shenzhen–Hong Kong Key Development Projects” named by the Guangdong Provincial Government.

Dr Cheung earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in geology and a minor in economics from Concordia University, Montreal, Canada. His return to Hong Kong in the 1980s coincided with a rise in public awareness about landslide problems. With his training in geology, Dr Cheung was well positioned to provide the very solution to questions of slope safety and maintenance. He opened a licensed company dealing with site formation, which is in the Government’s List of Approved Suppliers of Materials and Specialist Contractors for Public Works, Landslip Preventive/Remedial Works to Slopes/Retaining Walls Category.

Dr Cheung has since moved on to other business endeavours. His contribution to the commercial and finance sectors is extensive. Under his leadership, the Chinese Gold & Silver Exchange Society initiated and promoted the launch of the transaction code, the 9999-fine Gold Contract, registration scheme of practitioners, the Renminbi Kilobar Gold Contract, and so on. As President of the New Territories General Chamber of Commerce, he sought to safeguard the legal rights of industrial and commercial sectors by providing strategic advice to the HKSAR Government. As Vice-President of Guangdong General Chamber of Commerce, he was active in facilitating collaboration between business

communities in Hong Kong and mainland China. The Shenzhen–Hong Kong–Macau triangle, he believes, will benefit all parties concerned.

Dr Cheung has contributed to Hong Kong society in other ways, too. He has been Director of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals for four terms, Honorary Advisor to the Pok Oi Hospital and Chairman of the Chinese Gold and Silver Exchange Society Charity Fund. He also takes up advisory positions with educational bodies. He is a Council Member of the Education University of Hong Kong, the Alumni Advancement Committee of City University of Hong Kong Foundation, and Advisor of the Hong Kong Postgraduate Student Union, and the Hong Kong Sub-degree Association.

Despite the busy routine, Dr Cheung has recently returned to academia. His studies on the internationalisation of the RMB earned him a DBA after he got an EMBA from City University of Hong Kong. Dr Cheung places high importance on education and believes that academic work is a complement to his professional activities. He urges his younger peers to apply themselves likewise to their academic pursuits because they will provide theoretical support to their work. Dr Cheung supported the establishment of the City University of Hong Kong EMBA Association Charity Trust this year, and served as the Honorary Chairman. Donations to the Trust will be used for EMBA scholarships and the development of the University. The EMBA Association will organise fundraising activities every year, gathering enthusiastic EMBA and CityU alumni for the benefit of the University.

In Dr Cheung's view, China's drastic transformation in the last ten years has presented Hong Kong with difficulties as well as opportunities. On the one hand, as China becomes increasingly self-sufficient, the privileged position that Hong Kong once enjoyed is being challenged by cities such as Shanghai. On the other, Hong Kong, with its transparent monitoring system, is still years ahead in financial services. Moreover, Hong Kong as a brand name continues to command trust. He therefore calls upon young people in Hong Kong to get involved in China. The Pearl River Delta, for example, with its development in high-end technology, finance, logistics and education, will continue to draw on Hong Kong talent.

Mr Chairman and Mr President, Dr Haywood Cheung's visionary leadership in business has brought tremendous benefits for our society. His faith in the power of education and his commitment to public services and charitable activities are an inspiration to us all. It is my pleasure to present him to you who has been conferred the title of Honorary Fellow.