

Honorary Fellow Mr Chan Ka-kui

Public orator: Professor Robert Li Kwok-yiu

Pro-Chancellor, Chairman of the Council and President:

Mr Chan Ka-kui qualified as a chartered quantity surveyor in 1974 and has excelled himself ever since. He is visionary, industrious and caring.

Mr Chan demonstrated his vision and pioneering spirit in the early days of his career. In the seventies, the Hong Kong economy was in its early stage of development. Most professional surveyors preferred to stay with government services and consultancy practices where employment was more secure. However, he decided to leave government in 1978 and joined Hsin Chong Construction Company Limited as its Chief Quantity Surveyor. It was a rare move at that time but it paid off remarkably. Through hard work and dedication, he was quickly promoted to become managing director. He helped the company to become a very successful multi-discipline construction group in Hong Kong and Macau.

Mr Chan was an active and well respected member of the surveying and construction community. He helped to shape the landscape of these two important areas of the property and construction industry in Hong Kong. He was elected Chairman of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (Hong Kong Branch) in 1989, Chairman of the Construction Industry Training Authority from 1993 to 2001, and was Vice-President of Hong Kong Construction Association from 1989 to 1999.

Mr Chan has a wide spectrum of interests and expertise, and his contributions to Hong Kong are not restricted to the surveying profession and construction industry. He was appointed by the government to serve as Chairman of Sir David Trench Fund Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Council, and a member of the Town Planning Board, Sports Development Board, among others.

Mr Chan's outstanding achievements were recognised in the wider public domain as early as 1989 when he was elected an Outstanding Young Person; appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 1992; conferred the Bronze Bauhinia Star in 1998, and awarded the Outstanding BRE Alumni Award by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2014.

Mr Chan retired in 2008 to focus on community service. He is the Chairman of Mustard Seed Foundation, a charitable foundation that helps young people from underprivileged families; Chairman of Friends of Caritas; board member of Agency for Volunteer Service, a member of the Supervisory Board of Hong Kong Housing Society; and member of various government committees.

Mr Chan and his family have a close association with CityU, in particular the School of Law. He is a graduate of the Master of Arts in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution while his beloved wife, Corinna, daughter, Elvina and son, Alvin are also graduates of the School of Law. He was a Council member from 2009 to 2014, and is currently a member of the Court.

The University is particularly grateful to Mr Chan for his contributions while serving as Chairman of the Campus Development Project Steering Group when he was a Council member. The Group supervised the construction of four major campus development projects: Academic 2, Academic 3, the Run Run Shaw Creative Media Centre and Student Hostel Phase 4. These projects were vital to the smooth implementation of the 3-3-4 cohort transition in 2012. The buildings now form a significant part of the beautiful skyline of our University today.

Mr Chan is not only concerned with the hardware of the University. He has always been concerned with "whole-person development" of our students. He is a keen supporter of the City-Youth Empowerment Project, a very successful student volunteering scheme, and he has generously set up scholarships and bursaries that assist student members of the School of Law.

The community and the University have benefitted from the selfless services of Mr Chan and many of our students have benefitted from his philanthropy. Most important of all, he is a role model for young people. Mr Pro-Chancellor, Mr Chairman of the Council and Mr President, I earnestly request the University to confer the award of Honorary Fellowship on Mr Chan Ka-kui in recognition and appreciation of his accomplishments.