

Honorary Fellow Mr Nelson Yip Siu-hong

Citation written and delivered by Professor Ng Sik-hung

Pro-Chancellor, Chairman of the Council and President:

Mr Nelson Yip Siu-hong exemplifies the spirit of resilience, and he is living testimony to the power of faith in snatching victory from the jaws of disability.

Young Nelson completed his primary schooling at the Princess Alexandra Red Cross Residential School because he contracted cerebral palsy when he was an infant. Through his stamina and diligence he won a place at The Chinese University of Hong Kong where he studied statistics and computer science during the late 1980s, a period of intense student activism. Years later, he still upholds the conviction that knowledge is power and that general knowledge is vital to the development of an inquiring mind.

After completing his bachelor's degree at The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1991, he received job offers from his alma mater and the University of Hong Kong, which allowed him to apply his professional and general knowledge to research assignments and the mentoring of students. His association with CityU began with a two-year study for the Master of Arts in Quantitative Analysis for Business (MAQAB), which left him with an enduring imprint of CityU's passion for professional education and, just as important, cultivated his appetite for continuing education. Some four years after gaining his MAQAB, he returned to The Chinese University of Hong Kong to pursue an MBA, again as a part-timer while meeting the heavy demands of a full-time job.

Currently Mr Nelson Yip is the CEO of a number of companies including EP Power HK Co. Ltd and EP Venture Company Limited. EP, short for Exceptional Performance, expresses the philosophy that one can simultaneously make money and contribute to the betterment of the wider society by rejuvenating unused, or unleashing trapped, resources. EP Power

applies this philosophy to intelligent LED lighting, and EP Venture applies the same concepts to the provision of business advice for social welfare and youth organisations.

Nelson is the CEO of a third company: Appetizup Company Limited, a pioneer in the development and application of e-commerce in electronics and innovation technologies. In addition, his business acumen, entrepreneurship and strong sense of social responsibility led him to join forces with friends to create two advocacy groups: Energy Saving Concern Alliance and Hong Kong Electronics and Technologies Association, in September and November 2007, respectively.

Nelson has served on a number of government and community committees and boards. His services to people with disabilities are particularly noteworthy. He advises the government through his work with the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee—Subcommittee on Employment and the Committee on Vocational Training for People with Disabilities. The Hong Kong Rehabilitation Power, which he founded in 1995, has helped hundreds and thousands of people. A prominent figure on the rehabilitation and fundraising committees for the Riding for the Disabled Association, he is greatly admired and widely sought after for his innovative approaches to fundraising.

His public services reach beyond the rehabilitation field to civic education and social welfare. He is driven, in the former case, by a passionate belief in social responsibility, and in the latter case, by his vision for reform. The government and the people of Hong Kong have been fortunate in securing his services as a member of the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education and the Lump Sum Grant Steering Committee.

Nelson is a skilled horse rider, qualifying for international equestrian events after years of training and learning how to communicate with horses. In the arena for dressage events, he becomes at one with his mount, a moving art work, trotting, cantering and halting in harmony with the music. To people within and outside Hong Kong, Nelson is known for his achievements in the Paralympics, especially as he was a proud bearer of the Olympic flame for the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

Mr Pro-chancellor, Mr Chairman of the Council and Mr President, I am hugely privileged to present Mr Nelson Yip Siu-hong for the award of Honorary Fellow of City University of Hong Kong. Nelson's remarkable journey in education, business, public service and sports has been an inspiration for many, proving that the only handicaps in life lie in the mind, not with the body.

On account of his accomplishments and impact on Hong Kong society at large, I present him to you for the award of Honorary Fellowship of this University.