

Dr the Hon Leung Chun-ying, GBM, GBS, JP
Honorary Doctor of Social Science

Dr the Hon Leung Chun-ying, Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference since March 2017 and the fourth-term Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) from 2012 to 2017, is a well-known figure whose influence can be felt in many spheres of public life in Hong Kong and the Mainland.

Dr Leung is a graduate of Hong Kong Polytechnic (now the Hong Kong Polytechnic University) and Bristol Polytechnic (now the University of the West of England) in the United Kingdom (UK). He was previously awarded Honorary Doctorate degrees by five universities in the UK, Hong Kong, Shandong and Macao.

Dr Leung holds national development and public affairs close to his heart. Starting in the late 1970s, Dr Leung participated in land and housing reforms in the Mainland. Following a constitutional amendment in 1988, he assisted mainland cities in land leasing matters on a voluntary basis. Between 1984 and 1997, Dr Leung was involved in the preparatory work for the establishment of the HKSAR. From 1997 to 2011, he was a member of the Executive Council of Hong Kong and served as the Convenor of the Non-Official Members between 1999 and 2011.

Dr Leung has had a strong commitment to education development. He served as Chairman of the Council of CityUHK between 2008 to 2011. He has given unstinting support to the development of the Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences in CityUHK as well as to the establishment of the CityUHK (Dongguan) campus. In 2022, under his leadership, Minxin Hong Kong School (Guangzhou Nansha) was founded, and Dr Leung served as Chairman of the School Board.

Since 2017, when he completed his term as Chief Executive of HKSAR, Dr Leung has kept himself busy integrating Hong Kong with the Mainland. He remains at the forefront of considerable efforts to forge better relations. He has actively promoted Hong Kong's participation in the Belt and Road Initiative and holds prominent positions in related non-profit and non-governmental organisations, including Chairman of the Belt and Road Hong Kong Centre and the GX Foundation.

Professor Hiroshi Amano
Honorary Doctor of Science

Professor Hiroshi Amano is a Nobel Prize winner in Physics. He is an internationally acclaimed physicist and engineer in semiconductor technology.

Born in Hamamatsu in Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan, Professor Amano embarked on his academic and research journey at Nagoya University, where he received his Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees in Engineering. In his freshman year, Professor Amano learned from his lecturer the meaning of the Chinese character “工”, which means engineering in English. The character's structure resembles a bridge, symbolising the connection between people. Since then, Professor Amano has held the belief that the purpose of study is to benefit people, and he has aspired to change the world through research.

In 1985, he developed low-temperature deposited Aluminium Nitride buffer layers, resulting in better quality Gallium Nitride (GaN), and made a significant contribution to the development of light-emitting diodes (LEDs). Four years later, Professor Amano successfully fabricated the world's first blue LED.

Today, the use of blue LEDs has gone beyond optoelectronics. They have found ready applications in water purification and reducing air-borne microbiological contamination in outer space and marine situations. LEDs are also used in the medical field, where they have been found to be effective in administering cancer therapy and treating skin conditions.

In 2014, Professor Amano received the Japanese Order of Culture. The same year, he shared the 2014 Nobel Prize in Physics with **Professor Isamu Akasaki** and **Professor Shuji Nakamura** for “the invention of efficient blue light-emitting diodes, which has enabled bright and energy-saving white light sources”. This invention is famed for bringing about the second lighting revolution. Additionally, he is a Fellow of the Engineering Academy of Japan, a Foreign Member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, and an International Member of the National Academy of Engineering in the United States.

Dame Madeleine Atkins
Honorary Doctor of Social Science

Dame Madeleine Atkins, President of Lucy Cavendish College at the University of Cambridge, has a stellar track record of advancing the course of higher education in the United Kingdom (UK).

Dame Madeleine graduated from Girton College, University of Cambridge, majoring in law and history. She subsequently obtained a postgraduate certificate in education from the University of Oxford and a PhD from the University of Nottingham. From 1998 to 2004, she was the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University and from 2004 to 2013, the Vice-Chancellor of Coventry University. Following these appointments, in 2014 she became the Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council for England, the organisation that oversaw and regulated universities across England, ran the Research Excellence and Teaching Excellence Frameworks and distributed core and project funding to higher education institutions.

In 2018, she assumed her present position as the 9th President of Lucy Cavendish College. Founded in 1965, Lucy Cavendish College was originally established to provide women of mature age with a route to research careers and professional advancement at a time when such women had few ways to gain access to the University of Cambridge. The College's founding DNA was therefore to open the Cambridge door to students of exceptional potential from an under-served and historically excluded demographic. Then in 2019, under Dame Madeleine's leadership, the College's Trustees decided to open that door much wider still to provide the opportunity of a Cambridge education to exceptional students from all under-represented groups from the standard age of 18 years regardless of gender.

Dame Madeleine's service to higher education is celebrated by many prizes and awards bestowed upon her, including Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2012 and later Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2018 for her contributions to the higher education sector in the UK, an Honorary Fellowship from Girton College in 2015, and Honorary Doctorates from the University of Nottingham in 2017 and the University of Gloucestershire in 2018.