

Dr Chai Ngai-chiu Sunny

Honorary Fellow

Citation

In the chapter *King Hui of Liang* of the Chinese classic *Mencius*, there is this saying: "Through the scales will the weight of an object be known, and by way of the ruler will its length be determined. Likewise, subjective perception should give way to thorough examination in our daily encounters." The expression means that to quantify the exact weight and measurement of an object, one should seek the help of unbiased measuring tools, instead of merely applying our own judgement. Along the same vein, a decision maker should experience personally before drawing up a detailed, objective analysis of the challenges and opportunities ahead. I believe our honoree who is now on stage, Dr Chai Ngai-chiu Sunny, also publicly acclaimed as "King of Scales", already has a meticulous grasp of the meaning of that quote by *Mencius*.

In 1988, the young Sunny Chai graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology in the US with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. A life-time learner, he obtained an MBA from our University in 2007 and went on

to complete the Engineering Doctorate (Engineering Management) programme at the City University of Hong Kong in 2010. Dr Chai is the Managing Director of Fook Tin Group Holdings Limited. The company specialises in the design and manufacture of commercial as well as household scales, professional medical sensing devices, timers, and other small healthcare devices. Over the years, the products of Fook Tin have gained worldwide acclaim, and the company's scales products are globally placed at the forefront of this line of business. Dr Chai knows well that to produce products of sophistication and in compliance with world standards, he must explore all avenues to leverage advanced technology in the design and manufacturing processes. To that end, he had, through a number of overseas acquisition efforts in the 1990s, acquired top-notch expertise and technologies, and applied them in the manufacture of weighing equipment to enhance the quality of the company's products. Such a strategic move resulted in opening up more production lines of state-of-the-art professional scales that can be used in the medical, industrial and

automotive fields, and thus earning him the popular nickname “King of Scales” in the region. This high-tech approach in development has brought the company not only fame but also recognition from peer companies worldwide. To recognise his exceptional entrepreneurial and innovative spirit, he was awarded the “Hong Kong Young Industrialist Award” in 2004.

A successful industrialist and an influential and well-respected business figure in Hong Kong, Dr Chai has been entrusted with a number of government appointments in community service. He started his service at the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) in 2014 and was appointed Chairman in 2018. In 2021, He was elected Chairman of the Federation of

Hong Kong Industries. Started off as a young industrialist, the seasoned Dr Chai is now at the helm of the development of innovation and technology industry in Hong Kong. This role is strategic and carries lots of responsibility for the long-term development of the city. An ardent industrialist, Dr. Chai has tirelessly

thrown himself into exploring toward which direction the Hong Kong industries should move forward in the light of this revolutionary era. As Chairman of the HKSTP, he has repositioned the missions of the three industrial estates of Hong Kong and renamed them as “INNOPARKs”. The move, according to Dr. Chai, aims to help tenants in these InnoParks promote their business by coaxing them into undergoing timely transformation that embraces smart, technology-driven processes. Since the eighties, industrialists in Hong Kong have started moving their production lines to the Chinese mainland. Acknowledging this trend, the insightful Dr Chai has reassessed the development of Hong Kong industries. He can see that the companies now at the INNOPARKs are mostly engaging in innovative industry. The question is how the INNOPARKs could help these companies advance their business by “Innofacturing”. Dr Chai tries to elucidate the issue at stake: “High-tech products do not need labour-intensive support. Hence tech-based companies can choose to remain in Hong Kong, and also because the city has a robust intellectual

property (IP) system. These examples can be found in all the InnoParks, where we have companies researching the use of 3D preoperative planning and 3D printing technologies in support of orthopaedic surgery, and exploring the production of biomedical devices." Dr. Chai is of the further view that as the labour cost on the mainland continues to rise, more Hong Kong industrialists will pursue the road of automating their design and production lines with the help of robots. This trend has helped move the "strategic manufacturing process" back to Hong Kong. Indeed, Dr Chai's judicious remarks have hit the nail right on its head.

In face of this epoch-defining moment, Dr Chai has strenuously pushed the Government to undergo strategic planning regarding the development of Hong Kong industries. In this regard, he considers the nurturing of talents the most important to the city. In light of the current innovation and technology (I&T) development, Dr. Chai estimates that the demand for space for such endeavours will have to increase by four-fold. At the

same time, the need for talents in the field will increase even more than four-fold. To support such a rapid development trend, he also recommends that local universities should help by offering more AI academic programmes to cater for the future. For his sharp business acumen and visionary insight into I&T, our University has appointed him Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Engineering. Under his wise counsel, the Faculty started to offer, in 2022, the "Bachelor's degree of Engineering in Artificial Intelligence - Systems and Technologies" programme, which has since attracted a large number of applicants. The Hong Kong government has started cultivating startup companies, through its major initiative called InnoHK. With the support of HKSTP's established vibrant I&T ecosystem, startup companies can further expand markets and nurture talents in the sector. To this end, the University responded by setting up six InnoHK Centres pursuing research areas in healthcare, biomedicine, AI and robotics technology. These centres will help the transfer of University's research outputs into real socio-economic benefits for industries.

The University is forever grateful to Dr Chai and the HKSTP for their support in these knowledge transfer undertakings.

An enthusiastic business leader, Dr Chai is eager to give back to society. Amidst his busy schedules, he still spends an inordinate amount of time participating in services for the country and the Hong Kong community. He is a member of the 14th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. He is also a member of both the Chief Executive's Council of Advisors and the Advisory Committee on Attracting Strategic Enterprises. In addition, he is Chairman of the Vetting Committee of Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme, and also Chairman of the Innovation and Technology Advisory Committee under the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. For his contributions to the promotion of innovation and technology development and his strenuous efforts in community work in Hong Kong, the Hong Kong government awarded him the Bronze Bauhinia Star in 2018. Dr Chai was also appointed Justice of the Peace in 2021. Two local universities,

respectively The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2018, and the City University of Hong Kong in 2022, in turn honoured him with the title of honorary fellowship in recognition of his notable achievements in business and unwavering efforts in community service.

Mr Chairman, let us today salute Dr Chai for his outstanding achievements in business, and his selfless contributions to Hong Kong's overall development of innovation and technology. He has contributed a lot of personal efforts to help place Hong Kong at the forefront of "Industry 4.0", leading its development of advanced manufacturing processes and high value-added industries basing on innovative technologies. Furthermore, he has made significant contributions to the development of innovation and technology education and research at our University. Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Dr Chai Ngai-chiu Sunny for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

Professor Cheng Chun-yiu Jack

Honorary Fellow

Citation

Fan Zhongyan, a famous Confucian scholar of the Song Dynasty, once said, "If I can't be a great statesman, I would willingly become a conscientious doctor." A skilled doctor with a compassionate heart not only can help to treat and alleviate diseases but can also help patients to rekindle the meaning of life, thus bringing blessings to mankind. Great statesmen with a broad vision and mission can foresee opportunities and hence guide the nation towards prosperity, providing a beacon of hope for society. Good doctors, similar to great statesmen, can equally contribute to the well-being of society by providing therapeutic care, health education and preventive advices.

A renowned orthopaedic specialist, Professor Cheng Chun-yiu Jack graduated with an MB BS degree from HKU in 1976, and was conferred the degree of Doctor of Medicine by CUHK in 1999. Professor Cheng joined the Faculty of Medicine of CUHK in 1983, and had since held, besides his academic teaching and research portfolios, various administrative positions, including among them, Chairman of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology and

Associate Dean (Education) of the Faculty of Medicine. Later, he took up, on a concurrent basis, the position of University Dean of Students and subsequently, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University, during which time he was appointed to serve on a number of major policy committees of the University as well. In recognition of his remarkable performance both in teaching and research, the University conferred on Professor Cheng the Choh-Ming Li Professorship of Orthopaedics and Traumatology in 2015. Due to his exemplary academic leadership, he was appointed by the Hong Kong Government to serve as member of the University Grants Committee (UGC) from 2008 to 2013, following which as member of the Research Grant Council of the UGC from 2014 to 2016. When The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen (CUHK-Shenzhen) planned to set up its School of Medicine, he was appointed Director of the Joint Planning Office (JPS) of the School and helped to steer the School to a successful beginning. Even after stepping down from the directorship position, he continued to serve as Senior Consultant of the JPS. . Professor Cheng retired from the University

in 2018, and was henceforth awarded the title of Emeritus Professor of the University. During his tenure at CUHK, Professor Cheng had published extensively, including over 400 peer-reviewed research articles in international journals, over 500 conference presentations and 19 monographs. For his scholarly achievements, he was presented with more than 40 research related awards. He has also served on the editorial boards of a number of academic journals in the field, and was President of the Hong Kong Orthopaedic Association and member of over 20 local and overseas professional bodies and medical organisations, including the International Pediatric Orthopaedic Think Tank, in which he was one of the only two Asian delegates among the top 100 global experts in 1998.

A tender-hearted, proficient doctor and an orthopaedics specialist, Professor Cheng started his academic career at the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology of CUHK in 1983. Under the wing of the then Head of Department, Professor Leung Ping-chung, Professor Cheng focused his clinical expertise and

research on paediatric orthopaedics, with special interest in the etiopathogenesis of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. He was an active participant in the "Operation Concern" project which was initiated by Professor Leung on the mainland, the aim of which is to provide free treatment and healthcare services for people with musculoskeletal disabilities in the remote regions of China. In reminiscence, Professor Cheng recalled how the support team provided in the 1990s various clinical services, from performing orthopaedic surgery to the installation of prosthetic orthotic appliances, for hundreds of suffering patients in the mountainous areas of Sichuan. Professor Cheng and the team did their best for these underprivileged people under very poorly-equipped and challenging environment. Over the past four decades, with dedication and limited resources, the warm-hearted Professor Cheng brought both hope and comfort to his patients, among them are often children affected by different neuromusculoskeletal problems including scoliosis (a three dimensional deformity of the spine). In Hong Kong, Professor Cheng had conducted, in addition to his teaching and clinical

duties, focused basic science, clinical and epidemiological research related to the etiopathogenesis and treatment of scoliosis in children. Through his research findings and the long-term follow-up assessment, the Hong Kong community has come to recognise the impact of scoliosis on school children and how it could be diagnosed and treated through early screening and detection. Professor Cheng has made impressive contributions in the field of paediatric orthopaedics, and have not only served the community well but have also brought important insights to other healthcare professionals. For all that he has done, he has earned praise and respect from his peers, and deservedly so.

For his extraordinary performance, Professor Cheng was appointed, on a concurrent basis, the University Dean of Students in 2000. Two years later, he was appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University and, in the following decade, he was at the helm of the student affairs and global engagement of the University, his portfolios covering student recruitment and scholarships, university advancement, and forging closer

collaborations with both mainland and overseas institutions. During his term as Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Cheng had accompanied then Vice-Chancellor Professor Lawrence Lau Juen-yee on multiple visits to many academic institutions in Greater China, Japan, South Korea, Europe and North America. As a result, CUHK had signed up and enriched with fruitful faculty/student exchange, teaching and research partnership collaborations agreements with many renowned institutions worldwide. Simultaneously, Professor Cheng had been instrumental in bringing home a number of national level joint-partnership projects on focus research, among them the South China State Key Laboratory of Oncology in 2006, the State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology in 2008, and the State Key Laboratory of Synthetic Chemistry in 2009. Turning his attention to the north, Professor Cheng also helped, during his Pro-Vice-Chancellorship tenure, set up at the CUHK-Shenzhen campus, a number of important research centres, including the CUHK Shenzhen Research Institute and the Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Integration Technology. An amiable academic with

a neither overbearing nor self-effacing manner, Professor Cheng had led University delegations after delegations to visit many key mainland academic institutions. During these visits, he would represent the University to make known to sister institutions the achievements, development blueprint and aspirations of CUHK. These visits helped consolidate existing collaborations, or paved solid foundations for future partnership agreements with sister institutions spreading over Beijing, Shanghai and the Greater Bay Area. Professor Cheng's vision stretches far and wide, and his network with academic institutions worldwide is broad and intimate. He has indeed made significant contributions to the internationalisation efforts of the University on all fronts.

Mr Chairman, this year marks the 60th anniversary of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. From a humble, and at times difficult, early start, the University has since made giant steps forward as we are celebrating our Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Today, CUHK is comfortably placed within the top 50 tertiary institutions

in the world, and has succeeded in making outstanding contributions to Hong Kong and the world of academia. Let us rejoice over this jubilant occasion by paying our solemn tribute to members of the CUHK senior management, past and present, for their selfless and dedicated efforts. Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Professor Cheng Chun-yiu Jack for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

Mr Cheng Kam-chiu Stewart

Honorary Fellow

Citation

According to *Shuowen Jiezi* (a reference book compiled by Xu Shen during the Eastern Han Dynasty in China), the Chinese character 倫 (pronounced “lún”) means 道 (pronounced “tao”, to mean a “track”, for people to follow). The left component of the word 倫 is 人 (pronounced “rén”, to mean people) while the right component, 倫 (pronounced “cè”, to mean an album of words). Thus 倫 (“lún”) could represent a pile of neatly arranged bamboo slips by people, which can imply that “One should always conduct one's business in an orderly manner, like the assortment of the bamboo slips”. If you describe a person with the word “lún”, it means that the individual has always dealt with people and work in a proper, reasonable manner, an expected personality trait of a decent person. On the other hand, championing benevolence and advocating ethics and social responsibility are Chinese traditional cultural values. Mr Chairman, we have today standing in front of us Mr Cheng Kam-chiu Stewart, who staunchly upholds the aforesaid personal traits and Chinese traditional cultural values. A family man with amiable character, he loves his family and relatives, cares for his neighbours, and is a torch-bearer in

society. He deeply believes in building up a harmonious community and creating a better future for our next generation. To that end, he puts in lots of efforts into public services. His good deeds resonate well with the word “lún”.

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil and environmental engineering, the young Mr Stewart Cheng pursued further education, first in the University of California, Berkeley, and then at this University, earning himself respectively the Master's degree in Civil Engineering and an MBA. A professional engineer, Mr Cheng is a member of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers. He is currently Chairman of New Times Energy Corporation Limited and Managing Director of Cheung Hung Development (Holdings) Limited.

Born in Foshan of the Guangdong Province, Mr Cheng was raised up in Lunjiao, a sub-district in Shunde. His parents brought him along when settling down in Hong Kong while he was still young. Lunjiao was then an unspoiled village with honest and happy residents. People there devoted themselves

to literary pursuits and this small settlement was blessed with people of scholastic achievements, drawing the attention of the imperial government. In ancient times, Lunjiao was called Haixinsha (literally meaning a piece of sandy land at the delta of a river, thus the ancient name of Lunjiao). Legend has it that in the Ming Dynasty, a village dignitary there helped conserve, and make good use of, that sandy piece of land, winning the praise of the government. As a result, a commemorative plaque entitled “lún cháng jiào huà” (literally meaning “the good implementation of ethics and morality in society”) was presented to the village, and hence the origin of the new name “Lunjiao”. This sub-district has always been a canon of literary and artistic works, and has nurtured numerous intellectuals to the envy of other districts. A small town well rooted with high moral standards and a harmonious atmosphere is a perfect place for raising fine youngsters like those of the Cheng family, who have all inherited the virtue of ploughing back to the place where they have been raised, and in turn to the community at large.

Mr Cheng Yue-pui, father of Mr Stewart Cheng Kam-chiu, placed great emphasis on improving Lunjiao's infrastructure and fostering education opportunities for residents there. To that end, he gave donations that amount to HK\$850,000 in the 1980s to renovate his alma mater there. Following that generous deed, he continued to sponsor schools in the neighbourhood for improvement works. This benevolent

act of his stems from his affection for his home town, respect for Chinese traditional cultural values and, above all, love for the nation. Mr Stewart Cheng once said, “My father is a traditional country folk who holds dear to his heart a strong identification with his hometown and patriotism towards his country. This is how I feel about my father.” Judging from this remark, one could see that Mr Stewart Cheng has inherited his father's traits, and henceforth has conducted various gracious acts to sustain the family's legacy and to pass on the good traditions of Lunjiao.

Following his father's benevolent spirit, Mr Stewart Cheng has been active in community work, supporting various welfare projects that care for both the young and the elderly, and projects that help reinforce Chinese cultures, all for building a better society. His endeavours have unquestionably won praise and respect from all quarters. Ever since the mainland has undergone economic and social reform and opened up its door, Mr Cheng has been making numerous donations for the welfare of Shunde. His good deeds has led to, among others, the construction of the Zhengjingyi Vocational Technical School and the subsequent setting up of scholarships for students there, the establishment of scholarships at Lunjiao Middle School in Shunde, and the construction of the Shun Tak Fraternal Association Cheng Yu Tung Secondary School in Hong Kong . He also made donations to the welfare funds of Lunjiao, and provided funds to support

the renovation work of nursing homes and scholarships for impoverished children there. In 2014, he spearheaded the setting up of the Hong Kong Lun Jiao Clansman Association Limited (LJCA), with the aim to building a strong link between Lunjiao and their clansmen in Hong Kong. Each year, the LJCA organises, among other activities, the Spring Reunion gathering for its members, and Mr Cheng has spared no effort in this annual event. In 2018, the Lunjiao Education Fund launched a fund-raising campaign and Mr Cheng immediately contributed RMB 1 million to the Fund. In addition, he oftentimes arranges people and organisations to visit medical and nursing home projects in Lunjiao to show support for these worthy causes. During the outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020, he made a timely donation of Renminbi \$100,000 together with plentiful virus protection supplies for Lunjiao, to support its fight against the epidemic. Mr Cheng's care for both the young and elderly, his wish to give back to his hometown, his commendable deeds in promoting social harmony, and his contributions to the stability and prosperity of the country, are laudable and well recognised by all.

A veteran professional engineer with a wealth of knowledge and experience in property development and construction management, Mr Cheng has participated actively in various city planning and development projects, thereby putting into good use his skills and

expertise for the transformation of Hong Kong into a modern world-renowned city. At the start of his career in 1984, Mr Cheng first worked for Hip Hing Construction Company Limited as project manager, and was later appointed director. In 1993, he joined New World Development (China) Limited as its director and assistant general manager, overseeing the company's property development in the People Republic of China (PRC). The construction projects he has led include: the first Hong Kong financed four-star hotel in Shunde and the development of the commercial complex and shopping street at Lunjiao, etc. His work has helped the development, and has raised the quality of life, of his hometown. Before the transfer of Hong Kong's sovereignty back to China, Mr Cheng took part in the construction of the world famous Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and its ancillary architectural projects for the New World Group. Between 1997 and 2006, Mr Cheng was the director of NWS Service Management Limited, and in that portfolio, was mainly responsible for the construction projects and the related infrastructural works and facility management services in both Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland. His other responsibility includes pursuing business opportunities in mainland China. He has been member of the Foshan Shunde District Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference for many years and, in that capacity, has been passionately helping build a strong link between Foshan and Hong Kong, which has

led to the rapid and systematic development of his hometown. His contributions are commendable and have been well acknowledged by the authorities concerned as well as his hometown folks.

Mr Cheng started his connection with the University as early as the 1980s when he attended our postgraduate programme and was awarded an MBA degree in 1983. As an alumnus, he cares deeply for the development of the University. He joined the Board of Trustees of Shaw College in 2011, and is now, among other College commitments, the Second Vice-Chairman of the Board and member of the Finance Committee under the Board. The donations and pledged donations he has made to the University in support of its development amount to HK\$14 million. The funds support many good causes of the University, including fulfilling its mission of nurturing talents and advancing research in breast cancer, all of which are not only notable but also praiseworthy. In addition, he is currently a member of the University's Campus Planning and Building Committee under the Council, which attends to issues that are connected with the overall planning of the University site, and scrutinises the building programmes in relation to the development of the University. His engineering background, plus his insights and experience in the field, are the source of wise counsel for the capital works of the University. For many years, Mr Cheng has

also supported the "CUHK Golf Day" as one of the Patrons and member of its advisory committee, thereby helping to raise funds for the University. One of the beneficiaries of the funds is the establishment of the "CUHK Golf Day Scholarship", an admission scholarship for first-year undergraduates who have achieved academic excellence and have participated actively in voluntary services and sports activities.

Mr Chairman, Lunjiao has a long tradition of nurturing young talents and proving care service for the elderly, and the town has since grown into a modern and harmonious settlement to the envy of others, with credit given to the Cheng family. Mr Stewart Cheng has inherited the virtuous traits of people at Lunjiao and put them to good use in developing both Lunjiao and Hong Kong. He cherishes the ethical spirit and moral standard of his hometown and practises them in his daily endeavours. A magnanimous and gentlemanly engineer, Mr Cheng is well-respected both in his profession and in the community at large. His selfless giving to the University is not only to the jubilation of faculty and students but also helps us attain excellence in teaching and research, and pave our way to a better future. Mr Chairman, Mr Cheng is indeed an exemplary role model for all of us. For his good deeds, Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Mr Cheng Kam-chiu Stewart for the Honorary Fellowship.

Mr Cheung Wang-ngai Joseph

Honorary Fellow

Citation

Education is in some sense a lifelong calling for everyone, whether we acknowledge it or not. The world is continuously changing and we adapt accordingly: that adaptation is a form of lifelong learning. In the classroom, we are taught how to learn, and for some of us those skills will meet our lifetime needs. But others will feel a need to return to the classroom to learn more, from courses that are more formal and intentional than the courses that are offered by the University of Life. Joseph Cheung whom we honour today offers a striking example. He is a truth-seeker and passionate lifelong learner, whose curiosity and striving for truth brings him back to CUHK today, nearly 50 years after he embarked on a journey as an undergraduate at United College.

Six degrees of separation refers to the widely touted claim that everyone on the planet can be linked to anyone else in just six steps. Another six degrees – of connection, this time – have taken Joseph Cheung on an academic journey that started at CUHK in 1975 and continued via further studies at the University of London International Programme, The University of Hong Kong, The London School of Economics and Political Science, University

of Warwick, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, New York University Stern, and University College London in 2017. Let me expand on this a little.

The sequence I have just outlined spans over forty years. It began at United College, studying for a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration (BBA) and graduating with First Class Honours. But why work towards just one degree when you could perfectly well work on two? Once the first year of his BBA had been completed, Mr Cheung commenced, and simultaneously pursued, his first Law Degree. Both degrees were consequently completed in the same year – and, indeed, during the same month. Over the next two years, Joseph Cheung qualified for practice in Hong Kong with a PCLL (in 1980) from The University of Hong Kong, obtaining a distinction in Practice and Procedure, while deepening his legal expertise with an LLM (in 1981), from The London School of Economics on the prestigious Sir Run Run Shaw Postgraduate Scholarship.

Joseph Cheung built an impressive and successful legal career through the

1980s and 1990s, becoming a partner of a prominent law firm, Messrs. C. Y. Kwan & Co., within six short years after graduating from college. He is qualified to practice law at various levels in multiple jurisdictions: Hong Kong, England and Wales, Australia, and Singapore. Our honorand's qualifications in accountancy extend even further than his qualifications in law, adding the state of Illinois in the US to that list of places in which he is professionally qualified to practice. In 1990, he obtained his MBA with Distinction from the University of Warwick. In the early 2000s, he further burnished his multifaceted economic credentials and skills with a prestigious CFA in financial analysis, US CPA and FCA (England and Wales) in professional accounting, a CFP in financial planning, an FRM in financial risk management, a CIIA in international investments, and a CAIA for alternative assets. Without any loss of momentum or ambition, he then received a Master of Science in Global Finance from NYU Stern and HKUST with the highest GPA in his graduating class and the history of the program, which admitted him to the exclusive Beta Gamma Sigma, HKUST Chapter. This was closely followed by a Master of Science in Professional Accountancy with Distinction from University College London. This pattern of gaining distinction by linking theory to practice and setting himself ever higher challenges, continued for over four decades right up to the present.

Mr Cheung has maintained parallel

development tracks of practice and of academic work, in law, business and finance. After founding Oasis Investment Management Limited, an SFC licensed asset management firm, he went on to become a co-founder and director of iIDEAS, a biotech company specializing in innovative AI and robotic medical devices.

All the above evidences an astonishing commitment to education and training, both in dedicating the time required and in terms of the distance he has covered – intellectually and geographically. The results can be seen in the depth of his learning as well as in the breadth of his qualifications, his interests, and his activities. Mr Cheung's mastery of so many fields marks him out as the product of a most exceptionally well-rounded education, coupled with an extraordinary drive and ambition that has compressed into one lifetime enough to fill several, more, ordinary lives.

As we honour Mr Cheung today, it is fitting not only to reflect on his many achievements in the fields of law, accounting, and finance, but his unwavering dedication to education and community service. Mr Cheung's professional achievements are exemplary, yet it is his commitment to giving back to society that truly sets him apart. Throughout his career, Mr Cheung has demonstrated a deep understanding of the reciprocal nature of education – we receive and we impart. He has not only sought to develop his own skills and knowledge but has

also generously shared his expertise with others. Whether by serving as a role model, offering guidance and support, assuming social responsibilities, or undertaking teaching obligations, Mr Cheung has made a lasting impact on countless individuals and organizations. His record of community service is extensive and diverse, reflecting his broad range of interests and expertise. He has served on numerous committees and advisory boards across six governmental departments, as well as contributing his time and dedication to institutions such as Diocesan Boys' School and the Community Chest. He has also been a longtime supporter and donor of his alma maters, NYU, HKUST and CUHK, serving as a trustee of CUHK's United College since 2016 and as a member of the academic advisory boards of NYU Stern/NYU Shanghai and CUHK Faculty of Law. Notably, he has been instrumental in establishing a research excellence award for young professors at both the Faculty of Law and the United College, as well as providing an initial grant to fund the development of the CUHK Law and Technology program. His unflinching commitment and visionary initiatives demonstrate his outstanding dedication to the academic community. His philanthropic deeds towards the less privileged members of our society, including elderlies in care homes, orphans in the Mainland, and students at local public primary schools, require no further commendation. It is this combination of professional excellence and dedicated service that makes Mr Cheung

such a deserving recipient of this honorary fellowship. We are honored to recognise his achievements today and look forward to seeing the positive impact he will continue to have in the years to come.

As we commemorate the 60th anniversary of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, we are reminded of the visionary leadership of our founding chairman, the late Sir Cho Yiu Kwan, who steered the University Council in its early years. It is a testament to his foresight that CUHK has become the esteemed institution it is now. Today, we are honored to present an honorary fellowship to an individual who has been a long-time partner of Sir C Y Kwan's law firm. This recognition is a fitting tribute to the enduring legacy of our founding chairman and his vision for a world-class institution of higher learning. It is a testament to the values and principles that have guided CUHK since its inception and that continue to shape our community to this day. As we look to the future, we can be inspired by Mr Cheung's example and the values he embodies – the pursuit of lifelong learning, the quest for truth, and the commitment to excellence and public service.

Mr Chairman, it is my privilege to present Cheung Wang-ngai Joseph, a man of many parts, and a most generous contributor in multiple ways to Hong Kong, to CUHK, to United College and to the Faculty of Law, for an Honorary Fellowship.

The citation is written by Professor Nick Rawlins

Mrs Janice Choi

Honorary Fellow

Citation

In *King Hui of Liang* by Mencius, there is a record of a dialogue between Mencius and King Xuan of Qi:

Mencius asked: "Which is more joyful: to enjoy music alone or to share it with others?"

King Xuan replied: "It's better to enjoy it with others."

Mencius pursued further: "Which is better: to share music with a few or to share it with more people?"

King Xuan then replied: "With more people. No doubt."

The message behind the above dialogue is clear. It is important to make more people happy. The Chinese character "lè" as a noun originally means musical instruments, and is in every respect connected to music. According to *Shuowen Jiezi* (a reference book compiled by Xu Shen during the Eastern Han Dynasty, which explains the shape, sound and meaning of Chinese characters), the word "lè" gives the aggregate description of the five Chinese pentatonic tones (gong, shāng, jué, zhǐ, yǔ) and eight types of natural musical materials (gold, stone, earth, leather, silk, wood, gourd, bamboo), each capable of producing its own

unique timbre. However, the word "lè" was later being extended to mean "happiness" or "joy", and it elucidates well the joy one could derive from music appreciation. It follows that "lè" could also be interpreted as the pinnacle of music. Mrs Janice Choi, our Honorary Fellowship recipient today, knows well what "joy" or "happiness" means to the community. A phenomenal community leader in Hong Kong, Mrs Choi has been practising what she believes, by sharing her joy and happiness with others through various public services.

Mrs Janice Choi graduated from The University of Hong Kong, where she obtained the Bachelor of Laws degree, following which the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws. She is qualified to practise in a number of legal jurisdictions, including Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Singapore, and Victoria, Australia. She is also a China-Appointed Attesting Officer. Currently, Mrs Choi is the Consultant and Legal Director of Sunwah Group, a consultant to a solicitor firm, and a Non-Executive Director of the Sunwah Kingsway Capital Holdings Limited.

Mrs Choi has been married to Sunwah Group

Chairman, Dr Choi Koon-shum Jonathan, for 36 years, and together they have raised a very happy family with five children. For many years, Mrs Choi has struck a well balance among family, work and voluntary services. A good example of which is when she was Vice-Chairwoman of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, she often brought along her children to concerts presented by the Orchestra, so as to expose them to the culture of music while at the same time fulfilling her voluntary service for the Orchestra. To Mrs Choi, nurturing the next generation is her greatest mission. Besides attending to her children, she particularly likes to get into contact with young people. When she finds at work any inadequacy of young associates, she will always provide earnest advice and encouragement for them, in the hope that they will overcome difficulties and carry on with their good work. Her kind and amiable personality has won her not only respect but also friendship from all those she meets. Mrs Choi has been a laudable role model for others to follow.

Ever since childhood, Mrs Choi has always been kind and courteous to people, and committed herself to serving the public. While in secondary school, she inherited, as a Girl Guide, the virtuous spirit of "One good deed a day". When in college, Mrs Choi joined student groups that focus on housing and poverty issues, and accompanied these groups to visit the underprivileged and people living in squatter areas. When she became a solicitor, her passion to serve people has not attenuated.

She joined the voluntary service of the Hong Kong Community Chest in the early stage of her career, and has been the Chairwoman of the Community Chest Flag Day campaigns for many years, scoring record-breaking fundraising results. Later, she concurrently became a director of the Community Chest and is currently Vice Patron and Consultant of its Flag Day Campaign. As of today, Mrs Choi has served the Community Chest for over 30 years. In addition, Mrs Choi was once the President of the Island Regional branch of the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association, a position that enables her to continue the virtuous spirit which took root in her secondary school days. For her dedicated service, Mrs Choi was later appointed Honorary Vice-President of the Association, following which she was invited to take up a more impactful role, the vice president position, at its headquarters. Mrs Choi's service at various portfolios in the Association for over two decades have generated wide and positive effects in society, all of which are worthy of recognition.

For her outstanding leadership both in her profession and community work, Mrs Choi has been appointed by the Hong Kong government to a number of positions in the public service arena, including that of non-official member of the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (and Convenor of the Working Group on Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors under the committee), and member of the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (and Convenor of the Working Group

under it). Besides, she cares about fostering women's advancement in society and, to that end, has been active in participating in women's social groups in Hong Kong. She has served as President of the Zonta Club of the New Territories, President of the Hong Kong Federation of Women Lawyers Limited, member of the Standing Committee of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong (CGCC), and Chairman of the CCGC Ladies' Committee. In recognition of her numerous achievements and outstanding contributions to society, *Jessica* magazine honoured her with the "Most Successful Women Award" in 2015, a lucid reflection of her achievements and upright character. Two years later, she was appointed Justice of Peace by the Chief Executive and, in 2019, she was awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the government, both in recognition of her outstanding contributions to Hong Kong. Mrs Choi's generous and meritorious services, and her compassionate character, are all commendable and gratefully acknowledged by those who have the fortune to cross her path.

Mrs Choi's love for music is well known and her unreserved passion in supporting musical endeavours is a story well told. At the tender age of six, she started practising piano, which was followed by vocal training. Despite their hectic daily schedules, the Choi couple often find time to enjoy music at home. Every now and then, Dr Choi will heartily sing, supported by Mrs Choi's piano accompaniment. A true

believer in sharing the joy of music with others, Mrs Choi spares no effort in promoting the development of music in Hong Kong. Since 2002, she was appointed Board member of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Society Limited (HKPS) and her 20 plus years of service at HKPS has made her its longest serving Board member. In 2013, she was elected Vice-Chairwoman of HKPS. In addition, she has served as Chair of the HKPS Fundraising Committee for over a decade, thereby helping raise tens of millions of donations for the Orchestra. The funds enable the Orchestra to offer discounted or even free tickets for the underprivileged, the elderly and school children for admission to its performances. The money raised also allows HKPO to recruit internationally renowned conductors as Music Director so as to raise the professional standing of the Orchestra. This move has later resulted in the Orchestra winning a number of international awards. In 2003, she joined force with Mr Mok Wah-yeun Warren, a world famous tenor, to establish *Opera Hong Kong*, the mission of which is to promote opera music in schools and to popularise performing arts in Hong Kong. Always a true supporter of music, Mrs Choi also takes time out to help raise funds for *Opera Hong Kong* in order to nurture more talents in the field. In 2010, Mrs Choi joined force with Mr Trey Lee, a local superb cellist, to set up the Musicus Society. The aim of the Society is to promote cross-cultural collaboration regarding music projects between top local and overseas artists, and also through staging performances. Furthermore, the

Society aims at nurturing the next generation of talents in creative and performing arts, and has attempted to reach out to cultural institutions of the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area for more exchange and collaboration opportunities. For her significant contributions to arts and culture, the French government awarded Mrs Choi in 2018 the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Since the 1990s, Mrs Choi has built up a strong link with our University. The Choi couple have befriended Professor Yang Chen Ning for a long time and they often visited him while Professor Yang was resident on campus. Since 1991, Dr Jonathan Choi had served as a member of the Board of Trustees of United College. When he retired from the Board after 30 years' distinguished service, Mrs Choi followed his footsteps, and since 2021 has been holding the trustee position, extending the care and support of the Choi family to the College. Recently, the Choi family has donated HK\$50 million to support the construction of a new student hostel at United College, to the immense joy of both the faculty and students. To express deep gratitude to Dr Jonathan Choi and Mrs Janice Choi, United College named the new hostel the Choi Kai Yau Residence after Dr Choi's late father, and named the activity wing and the hall inside the hostel the "Jonathan K S Choi Cultural Centre" and "Janice W K Choi Concert Hall" respectively. With a seating capacity of 300, the future concert hall will become a rendezvous for both cultural

exchanges and performing arts events. The new student hostel will also become another vital venue for whole-person development – intellectually, spiritually, and ethically. Through the programmes and activities of the hostel, the College can further promote a framework that realises the College motto: "Ming De Xin Min" (literally to mean "Make one's virtues shine and renew the people"). Taking pride in this construction project, our students look forward to an enriched hostel life that injects rigor into both teaching and learning, raises the level of social concern, and strengthens moral inquiry.

Mr Chairman, Mrs Choi is an enthusiast in both music and arts. Her care and love for the Hong Kong community is whole-hearted and commendable. For her tireless efforts in serving society, and her generous devotion in the promotion of arts and culture in Hong Kong, she has won both praise and admiration from many sectors, and has deservedly earned her many honours and awards. All these years, she has put into practice well the exchanges between Mencius and King Xuan of Qi, that is, it is always better to share joy and happiness with more people. The University, and in particular United College, are forever grateful to the many benefactions from the Choi family at various stages of its development, which have unequivocally helped our efforts both in further advancement and new frontier exploration. Mr Chairman, it is my great pleasure to present to you Mrs Janice Choi for the Honorary Fellowship.

Professor Takanori Kitamura

Honorary Fellow

Citation

Professor Takanori Kitamura is a native of Japan with long-standing connections to China in general and Hong Kong in particular. Both Hong Kong and Japan have, at various times, been described as resembling “Cultural Galapagos Archipelagos”, isolated and diverging from the wider world. That may seem fanciful in today's hyper-connected world – but perhaps we should think less of absolutes and more of degrees or kinds of disconnection, and the mistrust and even dislike that it can engender. The best way to build empathy and trust between groups is for them to get to know one another. That is not a mere assertion of faith but an empirically demonstrable truth. Connections really matter to all our futures, and we need to find the right ways to create and strengthen them. International growth and development, harmony – and quite possibly our safety and posterity's, too – may all depend on successes in this enterprise. We owe a debt of gratitude to those who bring them about.

Professor Kitamura is one such person. He has worked tirelessly to build the kinds of bridges that matter, through diplomacy, through education and by example. His highly

distinguished career in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs commenced shortly after he had completed his BA at Nagasaki University – a city which was Japan's sole international trading port for over two centuries (thereby offering a window into Japan as Hong Kong has sometimes been thought of as a window into China).

Once in the Ministry, he spent two years learning Chinese in Beijing before heading to Harvard to take an MA in regional studies. That was followed by a series of home and overseas postings, including Beijing, New York, Hong Kong, and Manila, as well as Tokyo headquarters. He came back to Hong Kong in 2004 to assume the post of Consul-General and devoted himself to fostering bilateral ties between Hong Kong and Japan. One of these efforts was to initiate and establish a scholarship fund to encourage Japanese students to study on the MBA course at CUHK. After services in Hong Kong, he was posted to Greece as Japan's Ambassador, following which he retired in 2010.

To our great good fortune, he did not simply return home to Japan, but came back to

Hong Kong where he not only has strong links with the business and political communities but has also taken up a series of roles at CUHK with a strong association with New Asia College. He has now been here with us for some thirteen years, first as Professor of Japanese Studies and then as Adjunct Professor, while also being a Senior Research Fellow at CUHK's Institute for Asia-Pacific Studies. Beyond these named positions there is, however, more. He provided seed money that to help establish the Research Centre in Comparative Japanese Studies, and he activated his networks in Japan to initiate an annual two-way academic and cultural exchange programme that connects our students with those at Saga University in Japan. Few of us would describe this as retirement in the normal sense!

Japanese flowering cherries are one of the wonders of the plant world. They were developed in their homeland by breeding and selection over centuries, but they are not the longest lived of trees and, by the end of the nineteenth century, many varieties had been lost or were at risk of loss. Part of their salvation lay in their universal appeal – one of

the finest varieties, *Akatsuki*, that had vanished from Japan and survived only in paintings, was identified in an English garden, reintroduced in 1932 via the trans-Siberian railway and re-christened *Tai-haku*; two far distant groups of islands were connected through a shared aesthetic to the lasting benefit of the wider world. The annual cherry-blossom pilgrimage is a key moment in the Japanese calendar, but we can share some of Japan's delight right here at CUHK, because we now have 20 Japanese flowering cherries of our own. Professor Kitamura personally chose these trees, in Japan, and donated them to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our Department of Japanese Studies. Bridgebuilders can build their bridges in many ways.

Professor Kitamura is a diplomat, a thinker and educator, a tireless connector, and a true friend to this university. He has made CUHK and its campus richer and more beautiful places. Mr Chairman, it is my pleasure to present Professor Takanori Kitamura for an Honorary Fellowship.

The citation is written by Professor Nick Rawlins