

## Installation of the New Vice-Chancellor



### **Introduction of Professor Joseph J Y Sung SBS, MB BS, PhD, MD, FRCP (London), FRCP (Edinburgh), FRCP (Glasgow), FRACP, FAGA, FACG, FHKCP, FHKAM (Medicine)**

As we look around our beautiful campus on this historic morning, we are especially aware of all that The Chinese University of Hong Kong has achieved in almost half a century. World-class teaching departments, faculties, research centres, new colleges and libraries, all of them built up under the leadership of successive Vice-Chancellors. In every direction we can see the work progressing, as new buildings rise from our slopes to meet the challenges of the rapid growth of student numbers over the next few years. Many more serious challenges no doubt await us in an uncertain world. But this is a moment of confidence and hope that the University is well prepared to meet them. Our confidence and hope are invested in a new Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Joseph Sung, who will be installed here this morning.

Professor Sung has been a member of the University for more than half of its life. He understands the University and its unique traditions; he cherishes its distinctive spirit and values. Those of us who know his passion for excellent teaching, his care for students, for whole person education, his dedication to the sciences and the humanities, know that the University is in good hands. For all its international distinction and openness to global exchange of every kind, this University, perhaps more than any other in Hong Kong, arose out of the local Chinese community and culture. It has special connections with, and responsibilities for, Chinese values, culture and language. Professor Sung is committed to preserving and nurturing this precious heritage. At the same time, he understands that Hong Kong's destiny is to be an international city, modern and global in its outlook and outreach. The University too must be modern and global in its outlook and outreach. Professor Sung understands, as have his predecessors, that the University must hold these responsibilities to tradition and modernity, to the local and the global, in a creative balance. Here too we know we are in good hands.

Professor Sung has demonstrated his distinction and leadership in several domains. He is, before all else, a physician. He graduated from the University of Hong Kong in 1983; he received a PhD in biomedical sciences from the University of Calgary in 1992, as well as an MD from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1997. He joined the Prince of Wales Hospital in 1985 and the Department of Medicine at CUHK in 1992. In 1998 he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics and he was Chairman of the Department from 1999 to 2010. Concurrently he served as Associate Dean of Medicine both in the Clinical (2002-2004) and General Affairs (2004-2009) areas. He was appointed Mok Hing Yiu Professor of Medicine in 2008 in recognition of his significant contributions to the prevention and early diagnosis of gastrointestinal cancer.

Professor Sung has received recognition from prestigious medical colleges around the world. These include fellowships from the Royal Colleges of Physicians in Edinburgh, Glasgow, London and Thailand as well as the American College of Gastroenterology, the American



Gastroenterological Association, the Royal Australian College of Physicians, the Hong Kong College of Physicians and the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. But he is best known in Hong Kong as the public face of the heroic fight against the SARS virus in 2003. Nobody who was in Hong Kong during those dark months can forget the courage, self-sacrifice and dedication of the medical team at the Prince of Wales Hospital where SARS was at its most virulent and deadly. Professor Sung led the team by example and was awarded the Silver Bauhinia Star from the Hong Kong SAR Government in 2004 in recognition of the hands-on leadership he displayed in ministering to the dangerously ill and dying.

Professor Sung has also achieved distinction as a scientist. He is a world leader in gastroenterological research. He and his team proved the relationship between *Helicobacter Pylori* infection and peptic ulcers. They were the first to demonstrate that a course of antibiotics lasting a week can be a successful treatment for such ulcers. He and his team also pioneered the use of endoscopic treatment for ulcer bleeding. Their work reduced the need for operative procedures, a discovery that has changed the practice of gastroenterology world wide. Professor Sung is also a leader in research into colorectal cancer screening, for which the Prevent Cancer Foundation of the United States honoured him in 2008 with the Laurel Award. Such is the importance of his scientific discoveries that a number of his papers have been published in such places as *The New England Journal of Medicine* and *The Lancet*, two of the leading medical journals in the world.

Professor Sung was recognized in 2003 as an excellent teacher, winning the Vice-Chancellor's Exemplary Teaching Award. In describing his philosophy of teaching he made a simple but profound statement: "We teach by our acts, not by our words." Perhaps nothing characterizes him better, as a physician battling with a deadly virus; as a researcher seeking ways to cure painful and previously incurable ulcers, or to screen for unsuspected cancers; or as a leader in academic life, standing before us, as he does today, as an exemplary member of our community. What we see is a man who balances professional practice, research, teaching and service to his University.

Like all of us, Professor Sung is acutely aware of the pressures imposed on universities today to produce measurable outcomes in every aspect of their life. He knows that there is a legitimate expectation for outcome and performance in every domain of university life. But, as he explained to his students in his inaugural address at Shaw College, Professor Sung is concerned that pursuit of excellence according to world university rankings, whatever their validity, can work to subvert the fundamental mission of the university to educate the next generation. He does not wish to see our University go the way of the highly prestigious institutions described in a recent book by Harry R. Lewis as achieving Excellence without a Soul. For Professor Sung university teachers should be "mentors of values and ideals to the young"



and not absentee researchers. He believes firmly, as his own practice shows, in the need for research and teaching to be held in a proper balance, the one informing the other.

The installation of a new Vice-Chancellor and President is a special moment in the life of a university. It is a moment of hope that the weighty and often competing responsibilities he or she carries can be balanced with wisdom and understanding. Knowing Professor Sung as we do, admiring his achievements as we do, we look forward with confidence to many years of flourishing under the leadership of our seventh Vice-Chancellor.

*This introduction is written by Professor David Parker*

## Installation of the New Vice-Chancellor

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### **Introduction of Professor Joseph J Y Sung, SBS, MB BS, PhD, MD, FRCP (London), FRCP (Edinburgh), FRCP (Glasgow), FRACP, FAGA, FACG, FHKCP, FHKAM (Medicine)**

“Not one missed” is the ultimate aspiration of the medical practitioner, and “not one less” is the selfless commitment of the educationist to the community. These are the concepts that inform the career of Professor Joseph J Y Sung in the past twenty-five years, during which he practised medicine and educated the young, and achieved illustrious results. In the medical community, he is an Asian Hero and, on the University campus, he is an Exemplary Teacher. His research efforts have yielded findings that have earned him laurels from the academic community worldwide. Today he will take over the reins at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, where his administration will continue to be guided by these two noble concepts. As the seventh Vice-Chancellor, he will lead the University in the pursuit of new developments in anticipation of the imminent 50th anniversary, and as tertiary education in Hong Kong is about to revert to the time-honoured four-year undergraduate programme. The Song Dynasty scholar-statesman Fan Zhongyan once referred to the role of the physician by saying that “A good doctor is like a good minister, who enhances the life of the nation as well as its people.” Let us happily celebrate his accession, and await his new policies with abated breath, for we are teeming with trust in his forthcoming endeavours.

Professor Joseph Sung decided on a medical career when he was young, and in 1983 he received the MB BS degree from the University of Hong Kong. He then proceeded to further studies in Canada, and obtained a PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Calgary. In 1997, he was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Medicine at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. With the studious intensity that he was accustomed to in pursuing the two doctorates, his career has been a fruitful integration of both clinical practice, which he attends to with meticulous care, and state of the art research, in which he postulates with audacity. Thus, in the short span of a few years, he has opened many doors in the palace of medical research, and ascended to exalted levels of achievement. Professor Sung is a leader in gastroenterological research, where he specialises in intestinal bleeding, *Helicobacter Pylori*, peptic ulcer, hepatitis B, and cancers related to the digestive system. He pioneered the use of endoscopic treatment for ulcer bleeding, which, in due course, has drastically reduced the need of surgical operation. At the same time his research also gave proof to the relationship between *H pylori* and peptic ulcer diseases, and that, with a one-week course of antibiotics, the *H pylori* infection could be cured and the peptic ulcer successfully treated. Such achievements have been a tremendous blessing to patients, and their impact on global gastroenterological research is far and wide. In 2004, Professor Sung led a group of experts from 15 Asia-Pacific countries to launch a screening research project on colorectal cancer, in which he laid down clear guidelines, and took the lead in the promotion of colorectal screenings in the region. His contribution to the prevention of



cancer is widely felt and recognised by many, among them the Prevent Cancer Foundation of the United States, which presented him with the Laurel Award in 2008.

The achievements of Professor Sung in the realm of medicine are two-fold: there are many excellent medical research programmes to his credit, but, more importantly, he has demonstrated tremendous leadership abilities in the medical community. In 2003, Hong Kong witnessed the outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic, and with adverse conditions escalating day by day a general panic had developed amidst the community at large. Professor Sung was, at the time, the Chief of Service in Medicine at the Prince of Wales Hospital, and it was he who led the medical team in daily combat with the deadly disease. For an entire month he had not been home once. Every morning he put on his protective gear, went into the wards, and had close contact with patients who were unfortunately brought down by the epidemic. The wards were danger zones in those days, but he said, "I never thought that non-participation would be an option." SARS raged for four months and Professor Sung was at the medical frontline all along, making crucial decisions on diagnosis, treatment, and staff deployment. When the epidemic was over, *Time* magazine dubbed him with the accolade of "Asian Hero", in recognition of his acts of selfless and fearless sacrifice during the plague months. Later in the year he was presented with a Distinguished Leader Award and, at the ceremony, he invited his entire medical team to share the podium with him, saying that the honour was being bestowed on each and everyone in the team. Without the corporate firmness of purpose and collectively shed blood and tears, the battle against the epidemic would not have been won.

The SARS incident taught Professor Sung to practise even greater humility, and deepened his understanding of the impermanence of human existence. "For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?" He treasures human ties, and he also realises what practical benefits human efforts can bring to society. "The rolling waters of the Yangtze River diminish towards the East", so goes the lament of a Ming poet on the limited duration of the human life. However, the rolling waters of the Yangtze River reveal to Professor Sung a much more meaningful level of inspiration. He says, "The rolling waves of the Yangtze River urge us to pass our experience on to the generations succeeding us, so as to enable them not to repeat the mistakes that we have made." Mistakes are where success begins, and the accumulation of experience form the record of human evolution, with landmarks and indicators for subsequent generations. "Each generation of men will beget its next generation, and the succession will never come to an end." These are not only the words of an ignorant old man, but also the sage observation of the wise. The many frustrations that Professor Sung encountered during the SARS attack now served to kindle a fire at the bottom of his heart. He became more convinced of a role outside the medical faculty: participating in the governance of the University, seeking opportunities to work alongside colleagues from other



academic disciplines, and entering into dialogue with students on society and human life. He says, "Life is just like a football match. I hope to use my Second Half to attempt another form of tactics, and to redefine my attack. I hope to be able to do something of greater value, something that will have greater impact on society."

In 2008, Professor Sung assumed the headship of Shaw College. In his inauguration speech, he placed special emphasis on holistic education as a major tenet in a Chinese University education. Education is not meant to transmit knowledge alone; it serves to mould and shape young lives. The University provides a fertile plot where students, germinating seeds that they are, are nurtured to grow. Classroom studies will enable each student to pursue his or her chosen specialty. On the other hand each student will also have the opportunity, through the communal life, to know himself or herself better, to explore life, and to learn to shoulder responsibility as a member of society. Professor Sung had regular dessert evenings with the students where various topics, whether pertaining to the campus or the world outside, were discussed. He often demanded students to pay more attention to what was happening in other parts of the world, and be mindful of what tragedy poverty could bring to people in some places, sometimes to the point of an entire race being wiped out. He also asked for more concern for global warming, which could bring the Earth to irreversible disasters. To Professor Sung, knowledge and experience gained outside of the classroom mark where holistic education begins.

In 2010 Professor Sung assumed the headship of the Chinese University on the basis of the same concepts that informed his earlier career. The collegiate system will develop in such a way that each college will continue with its tradition and characteristics, and, through inter-collegiate cooperation, contribute further towards expanding the holistic education mission of the Chinese University. It is anticipated that, through the establishment of multi-level platforms, colleges, faculties and departments can play complementary roles to bring about greater effect in the administration of holistic education at the University. Professor Sung has the same expectations of both undergraduates and postgraduates, namely, the exploration of knowledge, and the cultivation of independent thinking. More thorough observation of matters and happenings in the environs, a healthy curiosity about why things should happen or occur the way they do, and an interest and the ability to learn on one's own, form the key to the door of greater learning. However, whether one may eventually be successful in the pursuit of learning hinges on one major factor, and that is the ability to identify truth from falsehood, and to uphold and defend the truth. Where one has to make a choice when a major issue is at stake, the choice becomes pivotal to one's subsequent success or failure. On this point Professor Sung believes that teachers should preferably teach by example, which will be much more effective than verbal exhortations delivered in the classroom. It is possible for more courses on ethics to be added to the curriculum, and teachers may discourse learnedly on the professional ethics in various



fields of employment. These, however, are unlikely to influence the students nearly as much as the opinions and behaviour of the teachers themselves. Setting an example for the students is reverently held by Professor Sung as the highest principle of education. The outbreak of SARS, campus greening and development, right down to handling diverse opinions from members of the University, these have all been challenges to Professor Sung, each in its own way. Professor Sung often discusses the way he handles issues and matters with his students. In his experience there are shocking and dangerous moments, there are crises, and there are also opportunities. Practical examples of how events and matters can turn at the last minute and change the situation completely are the most meaningful and practical teaching materials for the students. In the same vein, students learn the most effectively through practical discussion with their teachers.

Professor Sung is fond of self-derisively saying that he does not have very substantial administrative experience, nor does he particularly enjoy sitting in the office scrutinising documents. However, the sort of experience that he has is not what any chief executive officer, enthroned in his office, can possess, or even think of. His experience tells him that any issue may be observed from different angles, and that any business may be observed, analysed and discussed from a variety of viewpoints. To tackle a business from a single point of view will not give the viewer the benefit of a full perspective, and to adhere stubbornly to one's own bigoted opinions is just an act of obstinacy. Professor Sung is always willing to step out of the office and to discuss various matters with different people, and to listen to diverse views. An opposite opinion should not be seen as a personal challenge to oneself. As the sea embraces the rivers, that which accommodates the most is the greatest. Despite the clamour of many, the right to make a decision is still one's own. That which appears a mountain range when viewed horizontally becomes a mountain peak if looked at sideways. While this is objective observation, though, it does not connote the absence of a concept within the mind of the viewer. The mountain remains a mountain, the mountain range has not been transformed into a body of water, and the soaring peaks will never become white clouds. In any discussion, Professor Sung holds all views and opinions with respect. His standpoint has no regard for personal interest or prestige, but is invariably and always founded upon the major aspects of the issue at stake, and he always makes the greatest effort to seek common ground without eliminating the differences. He is also willing to assume the ultimate responsibility for any policy decision once made. At fifty-one years, Professor Sung has reached the age whereby, on the authority of the *Confucian Analects*, one should "know the decrees of Heaven." His appointment to the Vice-Chancellorship of the Chinese University is apparently a heavenly decree, one which Professor Sung is not in any position to decline.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong was founded in 1963, and its emblem is a purple phoenix. The University has been in existence for 47 years now, having developed into a



research-based integrated institution with equal emphasis on research and teaching. It has always been the policy of this University to preserve, create, apply and transmit knowledge, in the service of the community. In recent years, tertiary institutions in Hong Kong have developed a tendency to shift their emphasis gradually from teaching to research, to attach heavy weight to market response, and to adopt research output as the major criterion for faculty advancement. This is a trend that Professor Sung cannot endorse. His opinion is that whether a university is successful or otherwise should not be dependent on its ranking: “a university should strike a balance between research and teaching. If all efforts are directed towards the pursuit of excellence in research, to the negligence of the education of the younger generations, then this university will have accomplished its mission only by half.” To him, education is an enterprise that seeks to meet the various needs of the community, and those who are genuinely concerned with the enterprise should carefully listen to voices from different strata of society, rather than building miracles of rare device within their ivory towers, by obeying planning directives from above, and following the prescribed steps and policies. With Professor Sung at the helm, the Chinese University is beginning to re-examine the promotion criteria and mechanism for its academics, and the functional titles of tutors are now under serious discussion. With the developmental pendulum of the University moving towards a new equilibrium, the standing and duties of academics as teachers are gradually regaining deserved recognition. Henceforth research and teaching will both be at the forefront of university development, going their separate but complementary ways, in parallel, for the common good. The Chinese University will also continue to optimise its potential in different territories, and explore new frontiers in research in various disciplines. On the one hand the University will continue to embrace the cultural traditions of China and foster the humanistic spirit; on the other hand it will seek to pay back to the community by keeping a vigilant watch on the pulse of the 7 million people in Hong Kong, and prescribing therapy for the 1.3 billion compatriots in the Mainland. While we learn as we live, our life is shaped by what we learn. We create knowledge, and work for the welfare of mankind – these are the core values that are at the heart of the holistic education as practised at the Chinese University.

Professor Joseph Sung’s concepts and expectations of university education have found full testimony in his own undertakings. It is often said that if you want others to toe the line, you must conform to the discipline in the first place. Professor Sung’s career is an excellent paradigm of the parallel development of teaching and research, as his many and distinguished achievements, much admired by peers and exemplary to younger scholars, would amply illustrate. He obtained his medical degree in Hong Kong in 1983, and joined the Prince of Wales Hospital, the teaching hospital of the Chinese University, as a physician upon graduation. In 1992 he was appointed a lecturer in Medicine at the Chinese University, and elevated to the position of Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics in 1998. In 1999, he assumed the duties





of the Chairman of the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, and in 2002 he became the Associate Dean of Medicine (Clinical). In 2003 he received the Vice-Chancellor's Exemplary Teaching Award, and was the Associate Dean of Medicine (General Affairs) from 2004. In 2008, he was appointed as the Mok Hing Yiu Professor of Medicine. Professor Sung's medical publications are copious, having published close to 600 papers and authored or edited 15 books. His articles are the most frequently seen in learned journals of international reputation such as *The New England Journal of Medicine* and *Lancet*, and have won him awards for excellence on many occasions.

Professor Sung's achievements in medical services and medical research have also earned him important awards from both local and international bodies. These include the Outstanding Staff and Team Award of the Hospital Authority in 1998, the Eminent Scientist of the Year award from the International Research Promotion Council in 2003, the Distinguished Award for Fighting SARS presented by Radio Television Hong Kong and *Ming Pao* in 2003, and the Distinguished Leader Award 2003 from the Sing Tao Group. In 2004 he was awarded the Silver Bauhinia Star by the Hong Kong Government, in 2006 he received the Cheung Kong Achievement Award from the Ministry of Education of the Central People's Government, and in 2007 the Food and Health Bureau of the Hong Kong Government presented him with the Most Outstanding Contribution Award in Clinical Therapeutics. In the same year, the National Office for Science and Technology Awards presented him with the State Scientific and Technological Progress Award. In 2009 he was presented with the Marshall and Warren Award, the most coveted prize in gastroenterology in the Asia-Pacific region, and in the same year he also won the Endoscopy Award of the German Society of Gastroenterology.

Professor Sung is of Ningbo ancestry, in the province of Zhejiang, and his name is transliterated as Sung according to the native dialect. Professor Sung was born and nurtured in Hong Kong. His career is built here, and so is his payback to the community. Mrs Sung is also a member of the medical community, being a gynaecologist and obstetrician of great repute. Professor and Mrs Sung have two daughters, charming and wise beyond their years. The elder Miss Sung, in the SARS-stricken days, did give much encouragement to her father by sharing with him the famous lines from the Bible, "... if you do suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed." Soon seven years have passed and Miss Sung has just finished her secondary school education with eight distinctions in the Certificate of Education Examination, her intention being also to join the medical profession. Members of the Sung family all enjoy distinguished careers in various ways, representing a special grace bestowed by Providence on those who practise benevolence and charity.

After the SARS epidemic, Professor Sung documented his experiences in a book entitled *Another Sky*. After the rain, rainbow and clear skies. Now with Professor Sung in the Vice-



Chancellor's seat, the sky above Tolo Harbour will be streaked with golden clouds and purple phoenixes. As the saying goes, "It takes 10 years to grow trees but 100 years to educate people." We, a university located in Shatin, are going to grow more trees and nurture more talent on this campus. Under the leadership of Professor Sung, we, as a local university, will play a role in the development of China and the building of the world of the future. We will go global in our cultivation of a new generation of leaders for the 21st Century. Professor Sung is installed today as our Vice-Chancellor, and the University community and our friends from different sectors of society are happy to know that The Chinese University of Hong Kong is in good hands. Professor Sung often finds inspiration from the beatitudes as described in the Bible; he believes that blessed are the poor in spirit and the pure in heart. As a caring physician, a dedicated scholar, a devout Christian, and a visionary educator, Professor Sung is laying a new milestone for CUHK. This is the University's blessing and we are all excited about it. We are confident that the days to come will see an even better Chinese University. Mr Chairman, please let us congratulate Professor Joseph Sung for being installed as the seventh Vice-Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Jao-yiu, Jao-yiu, We love you.

*This is the translated version of the introduction written by Professor Samuel H Cheung*

## **Installation of the New Vice-Chancellor**

**Address by Professor Joseph J Y Sung  
SBS, MB BS, PhD, MD, FRCP (London), FRCP (Edinburgh), FRCP  
(Glasgow), FRACP, FAGA, FACG, FHKCP, FHKAM (Medicine)**

I stand before you greatly honored and with humility to be appointed as the 7<sup>th</sup> Vice-Chancellor and President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. This University was founded by scholars who embraced Chinese culture and philosophy, who had great passion to educate young men and women to become mature and responsible adults, who pointed out that we need humanities as much as science and technology to make our country and our world a better place. And with these commitments they laid solid foundations for our University over 60 years ago.

Under the capable leadership of my predecessors, The Chinese University of Hong Kong has become one of the top comprehensive research universities in Asia. Our cherished traditions in bilingualism and biculturalism, our heritage of profound humanitarianism, blending Eastern and Western cultures, our commitment to general education and whole-person development and our unique non-formal education and pastoral care through our colleges has put us on the global map of higher education in the past 50 years. But today we are facing unprecedented challenges.

Radical changes are occurring in university education worldwide. A silent crisis has started when nations thirst for economic growth, researchers are driven by the search for resources more than curiosity, universities look up to rankings more than nurturing young souls, and professors are rewarded primarily by their “productivity” rather than their scholarship. If this trend continues, nations all over the world will only be producing revenue-generating products and individuals, rather than responsible citizens; responsible citizens who can think for themselves, respect those who are different and understand others’ sufferings and needs. On the other hand, the imaginative and creative capability, the humanistic aspects of scientific research, and the capacity for rigorous critical thinking will diminish. The value of education will be lost.

Bronson Alcott said: “Education is that process by which thought is opened out of the soul, and, associated with outward things, is reflected back upon itself, and thus made conscious of its reality and shape”. When the nations talk about economic growth, we must not forget there are still hunger and sickness in even the wealthiest countries in the world. When the world focuses on scientific advancement, food production and prolonged longevity, we should be reminded that “the most common disease is not tuberculosis or leprosy, but the hunger for love” (Mother Teresa). As a comprehensive University, our balance of science and technology against humanities meets the demand in this world. In our University we will continue to uphold human values, to cultivate sensitivity to people’s need and suffering, to educate for

appreciation of the arts and music.

Tagore reminded us that “Our mind does not gain true freedom by acquiring materials for knowledge and possessing other people’s ideas but by forming its own standards of judgment and producing its own thoughts”. Socrates proclaimed that “the unexamined life is not worth living for a human being”. Today’s education puts more emphasis on information and skill, less on pursuit of truth and creativity. Too much time is spent on retaining facts rather than critiquing concepts. A lack of training in self-reflection and examination leads to unclarity about goals, wavering of opinions and ends up with loss of direction. Training of a critical mind is a crucial role of higher education. It is embraced in our time-honored tradition in general education, in our belief in college pastoral care and in our openness to all ideologies and beliefs.

Jawaharlal Nehru said: “Peace is...indivisible, so is freedom, so is prosperity now, and so also is disaster in this One World that can no longer be split into isolated fragments.” More than ever, we depend on people we have never met and they also depend on us. The problems we need to solve – economic, environmental, religious and political – are global in their scope and nature. We gradually come to realize that we are all citizens of the world. We need to embrace our Chinese culture on the one hand, but also need to know the challenges of different ethnic groups and other nations. The University’s commitment to research and teaching collaborations with other world-renowned institutions, in provision of student and academic exchange, the promotion of social services through our Colleges, will help our faculty and students, as well as others, to cultivate the ability to see ourselves as members of a global village. Our commitment to environmental protection is another endeavor to fulfill our global responsibility. We should learn to respond to the need of the world instead of building in our ivory tower.

Based on these pillars of preserving the humanities, cultivating innovation and critical thinking, and realization of world citizenship, we will be educating our students and leading CUHK into the next 50 years and beyond. This mission cannot be accomplished without the dedication of our teachers who are passionate in their teaching and research, not seeing it as a job, but a vocation. These dreams cannot be fulfilled without the support of our government, philanthropists and alumni, in giving their trust and their support to the University. Most importantly, the true spirit of a university education cannot be continued without the hard work of our students to keep their minds inquisitive to knowledge, their thirst for truth unquenched and their desire to excel invincible.

Mr Chairman, after I graduated from medical school I joined the Chinese University as a physician, a researcher and a teacher. Working as a medical doctor for 25 years, I have learned that medicine is both a science and an art. Working as an academic researcher for 25 years, I have been trained to think critically while working with my colleagues as a team. Working as a teacher for 25 years, I have come to realize that education requires a heart and a soul. I pledge to give my best skills, my passion and my perseverance to serve this University in the years to come. The Vice-Chancellorship of CUHK is a lofty one. I know that what lies ahead is more challenging than what I have experienced so far. And my responsibilities would be

unprecedented. But I am much encouraged by the words of Professor Ch'ien Mu. He said, "It is such uncouth environment that prompts me to struggle for excellence, and the state of deprivation only encourages my affections for others to flow. Be it a load of a thousand stones, I bear it upon my own shoulders. Let us, in our youth (I hope there's still a little bit of it left in me), join together and progress towards the future. Take care! Take care! This is the spirit of CUHK!"