

Speech by Mr. Alex K. Yasumoto

22 September 2005

Professor Lawrence Lau, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Many years ago, my father taught me a lesson – he said “give to the community much of what the community has given to you”.

I have been investing in Hong Kong for almost 20 years, and in these years I have witnessed many ups and downs; and through it all Hong Kong has given me a handsome return for my investment. Today, I am happy to return a good part of what I gained to support higher education development of Hong Kong.

I strongly believe that our younger generation should have a better understanding of the world we live in, and international exchange among the young people from different parts of the world will promote such an understanding, and in turn will foster peace and harmony amongst the nations. I greatly appreciate the vision and effort of Chinese University to expand the international horizon of its students and promote international exchange among the young people of Hong Kong, China as a whole, Japan and indeed many other places of the world. With this in mind, I have made a donation to the Chinese University to support such a cause. On the other hand, I am also in the process of establishing a Foundation in Japan which will work closely with the Chinese University to further the same cause.

I am also very much impressed by the Chinese University’s excellent education and research programmes. Therefore, I would like to see my contribution used to further promote academic excellence and enhance the international standing of the Chinese University to enable it to function more effectively as a Regional Centre of Excellence.

I shall continue to follow my father’s advice in giving back what I earn to benefit the community. Today only mark the beginning of what I hope is still a very long journey. The road is long, but I am not alone. I have confidence that working with Chinese University, a leading institution with a strong and clear vision of internationalization and an excellent record of academic achievement, my long-term partner who can help me to realize my vision of a better world ahead.

Thank you very much.