

Honorary Fellow Mr Ben Wong Chung-mat

Citation written and delivered by Professor Robert Li Kwok-yiu

Pro-Chancellor, Chairman of the Council and President:

Mr Ben Wong Chung-mat, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Wong's International Holdings Limited, is an established entrepreneurial industrialist with over forty years' experience in the electronics industry. He is well-known not only for the contributions he makes to Hong Kong business development but also for the betterment of the local economy and society through personal involvement and charitable donations.

After he received a Master of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering from The Ohio State University in the US in 1975, he returned to Hong Kong to join his father in printed circuited board fabrication. With his capacity for innovation and diligence, he gradually turned the family business from a small factory into an international company specialising in electronics manufacturing services. Under his stewardship, Wong's International Holdings Limited went through an enviable succession of accomplishments: the fabrication of probably the first portable computer in the world in 1980, and the building of the BBC home computer that led to a visit from the UK's Duke of Kent to his Kwun Tong factory in 1986. Over the years, as a business leader, Mr Wong has played a significant role in promoting economic well-being and technological advancement in Hong Kong and the region by introducing multinational companies to Hong Kong and China industries, directly investing in different ventures and by nurturing young talent.

Mr Wong firmly believes in the importance of education in ensuring the continued health and wealth of society. He routinely makes generous donations to various universities in Hong Kong, including a recent sponsorship to City University of Hong Kong, in recognition of which the Covered Terrace on the fourth floor of the Amenities Building was named "Wong's International Terrace" in 2016. As the founding School

Supervisor of the School Management Committee of the Yan Chai Hospital Wong Wha San Secondary School in Tseung Kwan O, he advocates the all-rounded development of students. The curriculum of the school gives as much emphasis to the arts and physical education as to languages, mathematics and science and technical subjects. Mr Wong recognises the importance of modern and technological campus facilities. He furnishes the campus with the latest technology to support effective learning and teaching, including providing instant access to the internet. Outside classrooms, he introduces internships to broaden the real-world experiences of students. In various places on the mainland, Mr Wong has set up five schools in Huizhou, Hunan, Xi'an as well as Nanchang, his hometown.

In community involvement, Mr Wong has made major contributions to society by serving on the Committee on Trust Fund for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, the Board of the Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, and the Social Welfare Advisory Committee. He was the Chairman of the Tsuen Wan Fight Crime Committee from 2004 to 2007, and he participated in the Tsuen Wan Home Affairs Department in sponsoring and coordinating an anti-drug programme for young people in Tsuen Wan. He is the Honorary Chairman of the Yan Chai Hospital Advisory Board. He has generously supported Yan Chai Hospital and Operation Smile China (now known as Beam International Foundation). He also made donations for the Sichuan earthquake and worked on a charity programme that provided "One Laptop Per Child". From 2008 to 2013, Mr Wong was an elected member of the 13th Chengdu Municipal Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and in 2009, he was appointed Justice of the Peace by the HKSAR Government.

Mr Wong attributes his strong sense of social responsibility in part to his participation in Yan Chai Hospital, an experience which affords him the opportunity to witness first-hand the needs of those who are less privileged. In his office that overlooks Kwun Tong harbour, Mr Wong finds himself ruminating on the historical role that the district played in Hong Kong's economic prosperity in the last century in sharp contrast with the imminent need for the renewal of its community in the near future. As a successful industrialist, he feels it only right for him to do his part for Hong Kong.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, Mr Chairman of the Council and Mr President, in recognition of the great contribution that he has made to the development of Hong Kong in industry, education and community welfare, may I present Mr Ben Wong Chung-Mat for the conferment of an Honorary Fellowship of City University of Hong Kong.