

Honorary Fellow Dr Jennifer Ng Chui-yiu

Public Orator Professor Frank Chen Youhua

Pro-Chancellor, Chairman of the Council and President:

Dr Jennifer Ng Chui-yiu, Vice-Chairman and CEO of Marshall-Karson Construction and Engineers Limited, is an established figure in the world of business, but beyond her profession, she is known for her philanthropic support to society.

Dr Ng spent her undergraduate years in Montreal, Canada and received her master's degree in business from the University of Technology Sydney. When she enrolled on the Doctor of Business Administration programme at City University of Hong Kong (CityU), she chose to study donation strategies in philanthropy, which was also the very first comprehensive study of its kind on donor demographics and the role of technology in fundraising. The choice of this atypical business subject not only fulfilled her academic curiosity but also unfolded her vocational aspirations as a philanthropist.

Like her doctoral thesis, Dr Ng's philanthropic philosophy is characterised with a pioneering spirit and always aims at providing expedient solutions to emerging challenges in response to critical events in time. Firstly, believing in her own vision, Dr Ng bears no fear in moving into uncharted waters and her visionary aspirations have led her to the founding of many novel initiatives that have brought about transformative changes to the lives of many across social, age and geographical divides. As the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Pok Oi Hospital, she instituted the Chronic Illness Relief Fund, which provided immediate rescue to patients suffering from critical diseases. In 2004, following the Indian Ocean tsunami, Dr Ng led the Pok Oi schools to raise funds for children who were orphaned in the catastrophe.

Dr Ng’s philanthropic contributions are ubiquitous and CityU is privileged to be part of her largesse. Over the years, she has rendered her support to a rich variety of programmes in business and the liberal arts. Dr Ng brings her ingenuity to endow the projects under her care with a unique character, always reflecting on ways to improve on her projects.

While most programmes for the Belt-and-Road Initiative are gauged at the postgraduate and research level, Dr Ng sees fundamental value for championing it in the undergraduate curriculum at CityU. The Lighthouse Heritage Research Connections that she funded modestly sprung from her keen interest in history and heritage preservation and was meant as a project to preserve lighthouses on video in Hong Kong, but soon blossomed to include those in other countries.

Like other events she has supported, Dr Ng always manages to inject a new breath of energy into her causes, bringing about catalytic expansions that are conducive to building a more inclusive community. With a passion for promoting the development of Hong Kong and its integration with mainland China, Dr Ng is the Founding President of the Association of China Trend Studies (Hong Kong).

In all her endeavours, Dr Ng is guided by what she pithily summarises as the 3 A’s and 3 P’s. The former, consisting of “Admire, Advance and Acknowledge,” describes a forward-looking outlook on life. Similarly, the latter, i.e. “Positive, Prepared and Possible”, nurtures an empowering optimism. Daring to make a difference, Dr Ng has chosen a road less taken and has always made herself readily available to serve those sectors of society where her presence is most needed:

*Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference*

The Road Not Taken, by Robert Frost (1874–1963)

Pro-Chancellor, Chairman of the Council and President, Dr Ng regards her charitable work not only as a way to help those around her, but also as an opportunity for her to broaden her own horizons. In recognition of the outstanding contributions that she has made to society and education, may I present Dr Jennifer Ng Chui-yiu for the conferment of an Honorary Fellowship of City University of Hong Kong.