

## **Address by Ms Ada Wong**

Mr. Bernard Chan, President Yuk-Shee Chan, Honorary Fellows, Lingnanians, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I am most privileged and honoured to receive this award of Honorary Fellowship from Lingnan University and I am delighted to address you on behalf of the other five distinguished Honorary Fellows today. They are Hong Kong's business leaders and philanthropists, and they deserve this title of Honorary Fellow more than I do. My sincerest congratulations and recognition to Dr. Michael Chan Yue-kwong, Ms Laura Chen, Mr. Ho Sai-chu GBS, OBE, JP, Mr. Benjamin Hung Pi-cheng, and Mr. Henry Wu King-cheong BBS, JP.

I had the honour of serving Lingnan and playing three different roles in the University in the last ten years, first as Council and Court member for seven years (between 1999-2006), and concurrently as advisor to the Department of Cultural Studies, and finally as Lingnan's part-time lecturer for the Master of Cultural Studies programme in 2004-05. This is a rare combination and these three positions have provided me with multiple perspectives and glimpses of different aspects of Lingnan, from its teachers to students, and from curriculum development to the University's holistic commitment to liberal arts education. As a part-time lecturer, I can see that the Master of Cultural Studies degree has benefited a cross section of individuals. They are teachers, social workers, artists and cultural administrators who embrace lifelong and multidisciplinary learning. As advisor to the MCS programme, I am convinced that the department has developed into a signature programme and will play more important roles in the cultural development of Hong Kong. As a Council member of Lingnan University, I can see that the University has gone from strength to strength, and has developed into a unique tertiary institution with its core values becoming known and supported by our community, including many employers of Lingnan graduates.

I have also witnessed the growth of Lingnan as a unique liberal arts institution. I had the fortune of understanding what a liberal arts education means, being a graduate of Pomona College in California in the early 1980s. I pursued my degree in foreign languages (French and German) and because of the liberal arts requirement, had the opportunity to take courses in international relations, history, psychology and even geology. The breadth of these courses coupled with small class teaching provided me with an unforgettable experience, and one that has influenced me throughout

these years. I also had the privilege of knowing faculty members of Pomona who became my lifelong mentors.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, our next generation no longer requires routine cognitive and manual skills, but non-routine analytical and interactive skills. The competencies to be stimulated in a tertiary learning environment should include cross-disciplinary, critical thinking, ability to make connections, and open-mindedness. I believe a liberal arts education is the answer to building the self-confidence, perseverance and competencies required for the future leader of our society.

Dr. Michael Chan Yue-kwong, Ms Laura Chen, Mr. Ho Sai-chu GBS, OBE, JP, Mr. Benjamin Hung Pi-cheng, and Mr. Henry Wu King-cheong BBS, JP have exemplary achievements in their own fields and have contributed enormously to society. Let me once again represent them to express our heartfelt thanks to the Council and Lingnan University in conferring upon us this very great honour, and to everybody, not least our families, friends and colleagues, who gave us encouragement and support. We wish Lingnan University all the best and vow to support the University in whatever way we can, in its road to further excellence as a liberal arts university.

## 黃英琦女士 致辭

陳智思先生、陳玉樹校長、各位榮譽院士、各位嶺南人、各位嘉賓：

本人深感榮幸獲嶺南大學頒授榮譽院士，也非常高興今天能夠代表其他五位榮譽院士致辭。幾位榮譽院士都是香港的商界領袖和慈善家，比我獲頒榮譽院士名銜更實至名歸。在此，我衷心祝賀陳裕光博士、陳樂怡女士、何世柱先生、洪丕正先生和胡經昌先生。

過去十年來，我很榮幸能在三個不同的崗位上為嶺大服務。一九九九至二零零六年的七年間，我曾擔任校董會及諮議會成員，同時兼任文化研究系顧問，並於二零零四至二零零五年擔任文化研究碩士課程的兼職講師。能同時擔任這三個職務實在很難得，讓我可以從不同角度、在不同層面上全面認識嶺大——由老師到學生，由課程發展到嶺大對博雅教育的全面承擔。作為兼職講師，我看到文化研究碩士讓不同界別的人受益，包括老師、社工、藝術家和文化管理人員，他們都重視終身學習和跨學科學習。作為文化研究碩士課程的顧問，我確信該學系已發展為同類課程的典範，並將在香港文化發展中扮演更重要的角色。作為嶺大校董會成員，我見證著嶺大的實力不斷壯大，發展成為一間別具特色的高等教育學府，其核心價值廣獲社會各界的認同和支持，包括不少聘用嶺大畢業生的僱主。

我也見證了嶺大成為一間獨特的博雅教育學府的發展歷程。一九八零年代初，我在加州的波莫那學院畢業，讓我有幸認識博雅教育。當時我攻讀外語（法文及德文）學位，由於博雅教育的要求，有機會修讀國際關係、歷史、心理學以至地質學的課程。這些課程採用小班教學，涉獵範圍廣濶，為我帶來難忘的經驗，多年來一直影響著我；而我在波莫那學院認識的老師，亦成為我的終生導師。

在二十一世紀，我們的下一代不再倚重常規性的認知和工藝技能，而是要培養不受常規局限的分析和互動能力。大學的學習環境應該激發學生的跨學科學習、批判性思考、建立聯繫的能力和開放的視野。我相信，博雅教育是幫助社會的未來領袖建立自信、毅力和本領的不二法門。

陳裕光博士、陳樂怡女士、何世柱先生、洪丕正先生和胡經昌先生在他們各自的領域中均有超卓的成就，對社會貢獻良多。讓我再次代表五位衷心感謝校董會和嶺南大學向我們頒授這個榮譽，並感謝所有人，尤其是給予我們鼓勵和支持的家人、朋友和同事。我們祝願嶺南大學萬事順利，並承諾全力支持嶺大，使它在發展博雅教育的道路上獲得更豐碩的成果。