

## Mr Roger Yuen Kwong-ming

Mr Roger Yuen Kwong-ming is a seasoned banker with over 38 years of banking experience. As a self-starter in Hong Kong in the 1980s, Mr Yuen exemplified the triumph of his strong belief that “knowledge drives personal destiny, while education brings social improvement”. A locally born youngster from a grassroots family, Mr Yuen started his first job working for Chase Manhattan Bank HK in 1973, right after he finished his secondary studies. It took Mr Yuen three years before he had saved enough for further studies at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1978. Upon graduation, Mr Yuen returned to work for his previous boss under the merchant banking subsidiary of Chase Manhattan Bank for a number of years, before immigrating to Canada. Taking advantage of low tuition fees for Canadian residents, Mr Yuen obtained his Master of Business Administration degree in 1984.

After spending many years in educational pursuits, Mr Yuen believed that he had made the best possible investment in himself. Armed with a solid education and experience working for foreign banks, Mr Yuen was recruited by China Resources Holdings Company Ltd (which is under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation in Beijing), and served as Assistant General Manager during the late 1980s. When China Resources acquired the Hong Kong Chinese Bank Ltd (currently CITIC Bank International Ltd) in 1993, Mr Yuen was entrusted with the position of Executive Director, and member of the Board. Mr Yuen had developed a rich portfolio working for foreign banks. In 1991, he was appointed as the first General Manager for Citibank N.A. in Shanghai, where throughout the early 1990s he built up and deepened his professional networks in China’s financial capital. As the new millennium dawned, Mr Yuen served the AIG Private Bank Ltd in Hong Kong under the title of Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Private Banking for the Asia Pacific region (2002-2006). From 2006 to 2016, Mr Yuen served the Bank of East Asia Ltd in Hong Kong, taking up the responsibilities of Head of Private Banking for China and Taiwan. He currently serves as Head of Business Development for Greater China.

Mr Yuen has had some remarkable achievements in the banking industry, and he believes that it is one of the social responsibilities of a banker to provide policy advice to the government that helps the economy

grow. As a liaison between local businessmen and the Central government, he has functioned since 2008 as Director of the Hong Kong Chinese Importers’ & Exporters’ Association, and Director of the Guangdong Chamber of Commerce. Moreover, Mr Yuen has also been appointed as a member of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference for the Shanghai Municipality since 2006, which has enabled him to channel policy recommendations, especially in the area of banking and finance, to the Central government over the last decade.

On top of serving as a policy adviser to the government, Mr Yuen has a genuine interest in serving the community, especially in two related areas: education and youth affairs. To build relationships among youth, the business community and the government, Mr Yuen has made use of different university alumni and youth associations as platforms for numerous seminars on current affairs. He has served as President of the Overseas Graduates Association since 1986, as Vice-Chairman of the Concordia University Hong Kong Foundation Ltd since 1999, and was Vice Chairman for both the Hong Kong United Youth Association and the Shanghai United Youth Association from 1993 to 2003. In addition, Mr Yuen values human capital highly and has prioritized quality education in the local education sector in order to nurture the next generation of Hong Kong’s business leaders. He was an appointed member of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) over a six-year period (1999-2005). Mr Yuen not only offered his expertise in validating numerous academic programmes in the field of banking and finance, but also contributed to setting up and implementing the Qualification Framework (QF) for producing standards for quality education across programmes. Mr Yuen was also appointed by Lingnan University as Deputy Chairman of the Court (October 2011 - October 2013) and member of the Council (October 2007 - October 2013). Mr Yuen has contributed his significant talents and resources in order to promote the institution’s advancement.

Mr Chairman, for his outstanding achievements in his professional field as well as his contribution to the banking and financial development of both Hong Kong and mainland China, may I now present Mr Roger Yuen Kwong-ming to you for conferment of an honorary fellowship.

*Citation written and delivered by Professor Esther Li*