

Dr the Hon LAM Ching-Choi, BBS, JP

Council Chairman Mr Rex AU YEUNG, President Prof Leonard CHENG, Honorary Fellows, Lingnanians, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Today, I am deeply honoured to be awarded an Honorary Fellowship by Lingnan University. I am also very pleased to deliver this speech on behalf of fellow awardees – Mr Larry KWOK Lam-Kwong, Ms Helena LO Yin-Ying (LAW Lan), and Ms Candy CHEA Shuk-Mui.

Lingnan University has enjoyed a long history. As early as in 1888, the American Presbyterian Church founded the Christian College in China in Guangzhou, inaugurating the educational services that became the precursor of Lingnan University in China. The College was re-named “Lingnan University” in 1927, with Dr CHUNG Wing-Kwong as the first president. When Prof CHEN Xujing took over the presidency in 1948, he created an excellent academic environment recruiting renowned professors including CHEN Yinque, WANG Li, LIANG Fangzhong and RONG Geng, who were all prominent academic figures described as “national treasures” in those days, to teach at Lingnan. Informed by the best of Chinese and Western traditions, Lingnan University’s liberal arts education is time-honoured and the fruit of the collective efforts of numerous educators over the course of history. It is my pleasure to be part of the Lingnan family as the University enters the 51st year since its re-establishment in Hong Kong.

I sense a strong cultural atmosphere every time I walk into the University campus. Literature, history, and philosophy are integral components of the education offered here. The writer LUNG Ying-Tai once said, “Literature and art allow us to see behind the surface of reality, and perceive a different form of reality that is closer to the core of our existence. In this form of reality, we not only experience the profoundness of rationality, but also an intuitive discernment of ‘beauty’. Beauty, in itself, is also a form of reality that is akin to the core of our existence.” Every time you pick up a book, you explore the world through words, and your heart echoes with the reality that the book presents. Reading a book is more than flipping pages—it is also an act to be carried out. As WANG Yangming, a philosopher from the Ming Dynasty, once said, “When personal desires get in the way, a person can no longer turn thoughts into action. Knowing and doing are inseparable. Knowing but not doing is, in essence, the same as not knowing at all”. We show what we have learned by the actions that we take. Our pursuit of truth, goodness and beauty is beyond the boundaries of books, and should also transcend time and space.

At the 50th Anniversary of Lingnan University’s re-establishment in Hong Kong, Lingnan University and the Lingnan Education Organisation published two books, titled *50 Years of Lingnan Spirit* and *The Old Spirit in a New Setting—The Hong Kong Story of Lingnan University*, which trace the history and development of Lingnan over half a century, with the aim of passing on the “Lingnan Spirit”. Today, the torch of the Lingnan heritage, bearing the hopes and dreams of generations of Lingnanians from the past to the present, has been passed to our hands. These two books record and elucidate the University’s motto “Education for Service”.

For many years, “serving society” is a tenet I hold deep in my heart. I was born in the 1960s and had experienced poverty as I grew up; I witnessed the development of Hong Kong during the 1970s and 1980s; I had been through the changes that came along in the 1990s and 2000s. Yet, my aspiration to serve the public has never changed. Throughout the changing times, Hong Kong has risen to global prominence, facing more and more opportunities and challenges. In this world where we must always keep advancing to avoid the risk of regress, we need everyone to pull in their efforts, as exemplified by the outstanding fellow awardees today. Mr Larry KWOK Lam-Kwong’s distinguished achievements in the legal field as well as public and social services, Ms Helena LAW Lan’s acclaimed performance in the film and television industry, and Ms Candy CHEA Shuk-Mui’s exceptional contributions in the sector of broadcasting and public welfare—all are great examples that the younger generation can emulate.

Finally, let me once again, speaking on behalf of Mr Larry KWOK Lam-Kwong, Ms Helena LAW Lan, Ms Candy CHEA Shuk-Mui and myself, dedicate our sincere thanks to Lingnan University and the Council for presenting the Honorary Fellowships to us. Our thanks also extend to those who have given us support and encouragement.

Thank you very much!

林正財醫生, *BBS, JP*

校董會主席歐陽伯權先生、鄭國漢校長、各位榮譽院士、各位嶺南人、各位嘉賓：

今天，我深感榮幸獲得嶺南大學頒授榮譽院士名銜。我很高興能代表同時獲得榮譽院士名銜的郭琳廣律師、盧燕英(羅蘭)女士及車淑梅女士向大家致辭。

嶺南大學有悠久的歷史。早在1888年，美國長老會在廣州創辦了格致書院，開啟了嶺南大學在中國的教育服務。1927年，書院正名為嶺南大學，由鍾榮光校長為嶺南大學首任華人校長。1948年，陳序經教授接任校長後任用國寶級教授：陳寅恪、王力、梁方仲、容庚等知名學者，盛況一時無兩。嶺南大學的中西博雅教育傳統有多年歷史，由無數教育家共同努力而成。可以成為嶺南大學的一分子，見證嶺南大學復校走到第51個年頭，是我的榮幸。

每次踏入嶺南大學的校園，我都感受到濃濃的人文氣息。文學、歷史，及哲學扎根於嶺南大學的教育之中。記得作家龍應台曾經講過：「文學與藝術使我們看見現實背面更貼近生存本質的一種現實，在這種現實裡，除了理性的深刻以外，還有直覺的對『美』的頓悟。美，也是更貼近生存本質的一種現實。」每次拾起一本書，都是透過文字去探遊世界，也與現實的點點滴滴產生共鳴。讀書，除了是閱讀書本，亦要實行出來，就如明代思想家王陽明所說：「此已被私欲隔斷，不是知行的本體了。未有知而不行者；知而不行，只是未知。」亦知亦行，將學養展現出來；我們對真善美的追求，是超脫了書本，也跨越了時空。

在嶺南大學復校50周年時，嶺南大學及嶺南教育機構出版了《嶺南精神五十載》，及《開創以傳承—嶺南大學香港復校》兩本書，回溯了嶺大於半世紀以來的歷史和發展歷程，將「嶺南精神」傳承下去。今日，歷史的火炬傳到你的手、我的手、大家的手，盛載了古往今來「百年樹人」的心志。兩本書記錄並闡述了嶺南大學的校訓——「作育英才，服務社會」。

多年以來，「服務社會」這四個字一直都刻畫在我的心深處。我在六十年代出生，經歷了貧苦的成長，見證了七、八十年代香港的發展，經歷了九十年代、千禧年的轉變，想為大眾服務的心志一直不變。在時代的變遷之中，香港走入了世界的大舞台，我們所面對的挑戰及機遇只增不減。在這個不進則退的世道之中，正正需要大家的共同努力，就如今日獲得榮譽的傑出人士一樣。而郭琳廣律師在法律界及公共及社會服務的傑出成就，羅蘭女士在影視舞台上的出色表現，車淑梅女士在傳媒廣播及公益領域的貢獻，都為後輩建立了榜樣。

最後，請讓我再次代表郭琳廣律師、羅蘭女士、車淑梅女士以及本人，衷心感謝嶺南大學及校董會頒授這個榮譽給我們，亦感謝所有給我們支持和鼓勵的同路人。

多謝各位！