

Dr Edmund TSE Sze-Wing, GBS

Doctor of Business Administration *honoris causa*

Address

Chancellor and HKSAR Chief Executive Carrie LAM, Council Chairman Rex AU YEUNG, President Leonard CHENG, distinguished guests and fellow graduates,

Good afternoon.

Along with Professor Joseph LAU Shiu-Ming and Mr PAN Sutong, we are deeply honoured to be here today for the conferment of Honorary Doctorate Degrees by Lingnan University. I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the University.

Lingnan University is dedicated to offering a liberal arts education that blends the best of East and West, to foster the development and capability of students, and to encourage students and teachers to give back to society through original research and knowledge. The countless awards and outstanding achievements have made us very proud to be part of Lingnan University.

Today the spotlight should be on the PhD, Master and Postgraduate Diploma graduates. Please accept my hearty congratulations because you have achieved your first goals through your endless pursuit of knowledge and untiring efforts, which have all contributed to the recognition and appreciation you are receiving today. May I also take this opportunity to congratulate the families, friends and teachers of the graduates. They would not have come to where they are today without your care, support, encouragement. I am especially thrilled to share this special moment with all of you.

The most exciting part of life is to learn and to make continuous progress. Education is like a spark to the candle of life. It has an impact on every part of life. Education is the most important motivation for social progress, pushing society forward for positive change. When I look back, I am immensely grateful to the many teachers and friends I met in school and work because these relationships have benefitted me for my entire life. That is why I am so willing to find the time and devote the effort to education. Today, I would like to share with you my two cents on the value and direction of higher education in Hong Kong.

For over a century, Hong Kong has undergone different stages in the development of higher education. From the elitism approach in the 1980s to the popularisation approach in the 1990s, and the universalisation approach since the turn of the century, there has been rapid development in higher education in the last two decades, not only in terms of the cluster of talent formed by the Chinese and foreign elites. There are many outstanding experts and world-class scholars in Hong Kong universities. In fact, the higher education colleges and universities have built internationally renowned faculties, and their academic research outcome is comparable to that of the world's top universities.

With the challenges of globalisation, increasing international competition, the rise of China, and the constant changes in all Asia Pacific countries, there is an urgent need to further enhance the quality of higher education to maintain Hong Kong's competitive edge.

I believe **Hong Kong should leverage its unique geographical and cultural advantages in developing higher education.** These advantages include its cosmopolitan atmosphere

combining East and West, its open society with an impressive cluster of talent, its rich information system, and its global vision, among many others. Therefore, while Hong Kong focuses on the systemic structure of higher education and resources management, let's not forget the strategic advantage Hong Kong has in terms of its economy, geography and culture, especially the emphasis on East and West cultural integration, the advocacy of innovation and technology, and the new cultural values in this new era, which will contribute to the leadership and prosperity of Hong Kong, China, Asia and the entire world.

At the same time, **the Hong Kong higher education sector should work more closely together to strive for win-win partnerships by consolidating their core competitiveness, and strengthening and promoting their world-leading status in a broader sense.** To become a world-leading integrated university is the long-term goal and vision for all Hong Kong higher education institutions, but it takes time to achieve this because of many constraints. But if we can give the intrinsic meaning of "world-leading" a modern interpretation, we mean putting more emphasis and effort into developing the academic arena, faculty, specific research areas, and the curriculum, all areas in which the local higher education colleges and universities have a competitive edge. Parts of the overall Hong Kong higher education system have reached the top-rated level internationally. For example, the Risk and Insurance Management programme at Lingnan University received recognition from the International Insurance Society. Lingnan University's curriculum design is ranked one of the most outstanding in the world along with the other eight top higher education colleges and universities in America, Europe and South Korea. This is just an example of how different universities can be world leaders in their unique areas of strength. Cooperating and promoting each other's leading status in the broader sense help enhance the overall standing and impact of Hong Kong in terms of the global higher education market.

Moreover, **in accordance with the modern trend of diversification, Hong Kong's higher education institutions should advocate diversification** and excellence in education to leverage their advantages and faculty strengths. They must develop their own specialised areas and encourage originality to seize and meet the opportunities and demand to fulfil the emerging needs of our diversified society. Some 85 per cent of the undergraduate students at Lingnan University participated in overseas exchange programmes. I admire the University's efforts to encourage and support the students in this way to broaden their horizons and knowledge. This is an important element of a diversified, global, outward-looking education.

These are some of my rough observations about higher education in Hong Kong, but please forgive me, because there are many experts and gurus in this assembly.

Once again, allow me to thank Lingnan University for conferring us these Honorary Doctorate Degrees. We sincerely hope Lingnan University will continue its efforts to teach inspirationally and cultivate students with outstanding ability, who will continue to drive social progress and contribute to the special power of human civilisation.

Thank you very much.

謝仕榮博士

榮譽工商管理學博士

謝辭

校監林鄭月娥行政長官、校董會主席歐陽伯權太平紳士、鄭國漢校長、各位嘉賓、各位同學：

大家好！

今日承蒙嶺南大學頒授榮譽博士學位，本人及劉紹銘教授和潘蘇通先生均深感榮幸。謹此首先向嶺南大學致以我們由衷的謝意！

嶺南大學致力於提供融合中西的博雅教育、培養學生全方位的卓越才能、並鼓勵師生通過原創性的研究和知識回饋社會。所獲佳績無數，成就斐然，能成為嶺南大學的其中一分子，我們深感自豪。

今日真正的主角應是在座取得博士學位、碩士學位及深造文憑的各位同學。衷心祝賀你們憑藉對真知的不斷求索和不懈努力，獲得今日的認同和嘉許。同時也衷心祝賀各位同學的家人、朋友及師長，你們的關愛、支持和鼓勵，促成了今日的成果。可以在此與各位分享這別具意義的時刻，本人尤感喜悅！

人生的精彩之處在於不斷學習、不斷進步。教育猶如點燃生命中學習的火種，影響每個人生命的進程。教育更是社會進步最重要的推動力，推動社會的前行和蛻變。回顧我過往經歷，感恩學校及工作中遇上很多良師益友，令我畢生受益。我亦因此一直很樂意並努力為下一代的教育略盡綿力。今日我想談談本人對香港高等教育的一些粗淺看法：

香港發展高等教育已超過一百年歷史，經歷了由八十年代的精英化到九十年代的大眾化，直至踏入二十一世紀後的普及化的轉變。尤其是近二十多年間，香港的高等教育迅速發展，不僅匯集了一批中外精英、傑出專家及世界級學者，一些高等院校更已經建立了國際一流的學術院系，取得的學術研究成果也與全球頂級高校比較不遑多讓。

面對全球化的衝擊、日趨激烈的國際競爭、中國內地的崛起及亞太區各個國家態勢的持續轉變，進一步發展及提升高等教育的質素對於保持香港的競爭優勢甚為關鍵。

本人認為，**香港高等教育應繼續發揮其獨有的地域和文化優勢**。香港是匯集東西文化的國際都會，社會開放，人才匯聚，資訊豐富，擁有全球化的視野。因此，香港的高等教育除注重在系統結構、資源政策等方面的檢視外，也應突顯香港在經濟地理文化方面的戰略優勢，強調融合東西方文化精髓，倡導科技創新及新時代下的新文化價值，為香港、中國內地乃至亞洲及全球的繁榮發展培養新的領導力量。

同時，**香港的高等教育應該提倡合作共贏，凝聚核心競爭力，形成並宣導廣義的世界領先地位**。成為世界領先的綜合大學是香港不少高等院校奮鬥的長期目標，但由於不同因素的局限，實現這一目標尚需時日。如果我們對「世界領先」的內涵賦予新的詮釋，強調並著力發展香港區域內各高等院校具有優勢的一些學術領域、學系或具體學術科研項目及課程，香港高等院校整體體系已經接近甚至已經達到國際一流的水準。例如，嶺南大學的「風險及保險管理課程」獲國際保險學會嘉許，與另外八所來自歐美、韓國的頂尖學府，並列全球卓越課程設計高等院校之一。這

正是不同高等院校，可以在不同領域領先同儕的例子。合作推廣更具廣義的領先地位，有助提升香港在全球高等教育市場的地位及影響力。

此外，**香港的高等教育需要因應多元化的時代趨勢，倡導多元卓越教育**，發揮各個高等院校及其學系的既有優勢，開發各自獨有的發展空間，鼓勵原創，充分把握並滿足多元社會下應運而生的各種新的機遇及需求。嶺南大學的本科生當中，有百分之八十五的同學會參與海外交流計劃。我非常欣賞嶺南大學能夠鼓勵並支持同學擴闊視野、增廣見聞，此乃多元化教育的重要一環。

以上粗淺看法，請恕本人冒昧，畢竟在座很多都是高等教育的專家。

最後，再次感謝嶺南大學向我們頒授榮譽博士學位。我們衷心祝願，嶺南大學繼續春風化雨、作育英才，為推動社會進步及人類文明發展貢獻力量。

謝謝各位。