

# **Mr Pong Chun-Yee David, JP**

## **Honorary Fellow**

### **Address**

Council Chairman Mr Andrew Yao, President Prof Leonard Cheng, Honorary Fellows, Lingnanians, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honour to receive an honorary fellowship from Lingnan University. I am delighted to deliver this address on behalf of my distinguished fellow recipients, Mr Ip Chun, Dr Winnie Tang, Mr Jaap van Zweden and myself. Together, we would like to express our thanks to the University Council.

Lingnan's long and sometimes turbulent history dates back to its founding in 1888 in Guangzhou. From what I have read, Lingnan University has moved its campus more often than any other major university in the world. Lingnan has not only survived the multiple relocations, and its merger with Sun Yat-sen University and subsequent re-establishment in Hong Kong, but also adapted in the face of these challenges to become a stronger and better institution of higher learning. Today, Lingnan is the only liberal arts university in Hong Kong and widely recognised as one of the top liberal arts universities in Asia.

While I am not a Lingnan alumnus, I do feel a degree of familiarity with the University. My family business, Shiu Wing Steel Limited, is also in Tuen Mun just 15 minutes from the Lingnan campus. My father, Frank Pong, served on the Lingnan Council for six years while Professor Edward Chen was the President. I have also had the pleasure of working with your art history professors in the Department of Visual Studies.

Now more than ever, Lingnan and all the other universities in Hong Kong need to help unite our home city by fostering an environment to nurture open-minded, knowledgeable, and responsible young adults. Together, regardless of any difference of opinion, the next generation must move forward and build a better tomorrow for Hong Kong.

In closing, may I once again, on behalf of Mr Ip Chun, Dr Winnie Tang, Mr Jaap van Zweden, express our gratitude to Lingnan University for the award. We will continue to support this great institution and watch with pride and joy as Lingnan University goes from strength to strength in the coming years!

Thank you.