

## Short Biography of Dr. Kent Lai

Dr. Kent Lai was born and raised in Hong Kong before he attended Arizona State University in the US where he earned his Bachelor and PhD in Finance. Afterward, he joined the Accounting and Finance Department of Lingnan University. In 2008 he switched to the Department of Economics to manage the MSc. in International Banking and Finance (MIBF) Program which he and other colleagues of the Economics Department launched in 2006. As the Managing Director of the MIBF Program, Dr. Lai is responsible for all aspects of this self-funded program including curriculum, quality assurance, teacher recruitment, promotion, admission, student activities, professional and career development, alumni engagement and external relations. He also teaches several courses and leads student overseas study tours.

Even before joining the University Council, Dr. Lai has served in many important University units such as the University Court, the Senate, the Board of Governors of the Lingnan Institute of Further Education (LIFE), the Christian Activities Committee of the University Council, the Postgraduate Studies Committee, the Student Disciplinary Committee, Program and Curriculum Committees of various master's and bachelor's programs, and Planning Committees for several new master's programs.

From 2016 to 2019 Dr. Lai assisted the University to establish the Division of Graduate Studies (DGS, now School of Graduate Studies, GS) and took up a concurrent appointment as Founding Associate Director. He was also appointed as an Adjunct Associate Professor (Teaching) of the School of Graduate Studies. From 2017 to 2019, Dr. Lai concurrently served as Program Director of MA in International Higher Education Management (IHEM) Program which he and other DGS colleagues launched.

Dr. Lai has broad interest in education at all levels. He is a director of the Lingnan Education Organization, the Chair of Finance Committee and School Manager (校董) of Lingnan Dr. Chung Wing Kwong Memorial Secondary School, and a School Manager of Lingnan Alumni Association (Hong Kong) Primary School.

Professionally, Dr. Lai is a founding member and a senior fellow of the Hong Kong Securities and Investment Institute for which he has served as examiner and member of committees like Editorial Committee, Membership Committee, and Outreach Committee.

For the Community, Dr. Lai has been serving on the Deacon Board of a Christian Church in the last two decades (with breaks). He is also a Director of an NGO Creative Development Ministries Limited.

Dr. Lai is married with a son, and enjoys reading, sports, listening and playing music at leisure.