

## **Prof Christine FANG Meng-sang BBS, JP**

Council Chairman The Hon Bernard Chan, President Prof Leonard Cheng, Honorary Fellows, Lingnians, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

I am deeply honoured to receive this Honorary Fellowship from Lingnan University, and I am delighted to deliver this address on behalf of the other five distinguished honorary fellows, who received this honour together with me today.

My maternal grandfather was a graduate of Canton Christian College. Upon graduation he was recommended to compete for a national scholarship (the Boxer Scholarship) to pursue university education in the United States. He succeeded and attained a doctoral degree in chemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Boston, USA, returning to his home town Hong Kong in the early 1920s. This was my first-hand experience of Lingnan's commitment to supporting the pursuit of high aspirations in life and whole person development of generations of young minds under their care and guidance.

Today, five honorary fellows and myself share the honour of becoming Lingnians. We espouse the University's vision of "Education for Service" and commitment to humanity.

The current political tension and increasing polarisation in our society are worrying to everyone that cares for the community. The challenge is immense but we should not lose hope. Hong Kong has weathered worse circumstances like the Japanese occupation, and the health and economic crises in the recent decade. It is in these trying times that we reflect on what we really value and strive to uphold. High ideals stem from simple beliefs.

I believe in humanity. I see the actions and power of humanity in the work of the honorary fellows present today, in helping the disadvantaged, preserving our history, inspiring our youth and advocating a better society. We believe in people and we work to make livelihood better, our society better. It may be back to basics, that is what we need now. We need to work to bring hope, enrich lives, build aspirations and empower people to strive for their dreams.

---

Integrity, freedom and justice, rule of law, compassion and respect for humanity are core values we treasure and uphold. Civil society, including academics, professionals, grassroots organisations and businesses, should come together to affirm these values in action. We need to profess and translate these high ideals into activities and programmes, that people can see, participate in and contribute to. The construct of a fair and prosperous society is not just the responsibility of the government or the politicians. Every small step that each can take forward together will become a great leap of progress for society. As the emblem of Lingnan shows, the road to the summit is there through the clouds and by virtue of hard work.

With this, may I call upon all Lingnians to take the future into our hands and work together to make Hong Kong a society that can bring hope, love, prosperity and pride to the people.

In closing, on behalf of Dr Alman Chan, Dr Adrian Cheng, Mr Shen Jinkang, Dr Daniel Waters and my dear friend Ms Fermi Wong, may I express once again our gratitude to Lingnan University and its Council for conferring this honour on us, and to everyone who has given us support and encouragement along the way. We wish the University and all Lingnians every success. Thank you.

## 方敏生教授

校董會主席陳智思先生，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銜。我很高興能代表同時獲得榮譽院士銜的五位傑出人士，向大家致辭。

我的外祖父是廣州嶺南學堂的畢業生。畢業後，他得到推薦去競爭一項國家級獎學金(即庚子賠款獎學金)，到美國升讀大學。外祖父成功拿到獎學金，到了波士頓，在麻省理工學院取得化學博士學位。在上世紀二十年代初，他學成歸國，回到自己的家鄉—香港。就是這樣，我親身感受到嶺南的教育抱負。通過悉心關懷及督導，嶺南培育了一代又一代有志追尋遠大志向及全人發展的學生。

今天，我和五位榮譽院士一同分享成為嶺南人的光榮。我們對嶺南「作育英才·服務社會」以及她對人文關懷的願景，深表認同。

對於目前社會上的政治分歧以及日趨兩極化的情況，關心社群的人無不憂慮。我們面對的挑戰是巨大的，但不應該就此失去希望。香港曾經渡過更惡劣的情況，例如日本佔領香港的歲月，以及過去十年的衛生和經濟危機等。正是這些艱難的時刻，讓我們反思我們所珍惜的以及所努力堅持的是什麼。崇高的理想，源於簡單的信念。

我相信仁愛。在今天獲頒院士榮銜的幾位人士身上，我能親見仁愛的行動和力量，扶助弱勢社群，保護歷史傳統，激勵年輕一代，以及推動改進社會等等。我們相信人力，我們協力改善生活，改善社會。這或許是回到基本課題上，也是我們目前需要著手處理的。我們需要致力為社群帶來希望，使他們生活充實、志向遠大，並讓他們有能力追尋自己的夢想。

---

誠信、自由、正義、法治、同情，以及對人的尊重，是我們珍惜並且堅持的核心價值。公民社會，包括學術界、專業人士、草根組織及工商企業等，應該團結起來，以行動確認這些價值。我們需要宣揚這些崇高的理想，把它們轉化為各項活動和計劃，讓其他人了解、參與，並作出貢獻。建立一個公正和繁榮的社會並不單單是政府或政客的责任。每個人同時踏出一小步，就能促成社會發展向前的一大步。正如嶺大的校徽展示，必須憑着努力的工作，才可以通過雲彩走向高峰。

有了這個目標，我呼籲所有嶺南人把握未來，共同努力，使香港成為一個能為人們帶來希望、愛心、繁榮和足以自豪的社會。

最後，我代表陳兆焯博士、鄭志剛博士、沈金康先生、華德斯博士和我好朋友王惠芬女士，為嶺南大學及大學校董會頒授這個榮譽給我們再次表示謝意，也向所有給我們支持和鼓勵的同路人表示感謝。衷心希望嶺南大學和嶺南人事事如意，一切順利。謝謝。