

Mr Lam Tin-fuk, GBS, JP

Honorary Fellow

Citation

Some careers are so interwoven with the fabric of our city that their story is the story of Hong Kong itself. Such is the path of Mr Lam Tin-fuk, a visionary leader whose professional journey has not only mirrored but actively shaped the economic ascent of Hong Kong for nearly four decades.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Mr Lam completed his early education here before earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Computing Science from Imperial College, London. He began his life in public service as an Administrative Officer in the Hong Kong Government, and it was here that a foundational shift occurred; his work evolved from a means of satisfying family economic needs to a calling to serve society. This newfound sense of fulfillment and civic purpose would become the guiding principle of his illustrious career.

In 1986, Mr Lam joined the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), embarking on a remarkable 28-year journey. Rising through the ranks to become Executive Director in 2004, he led an international team dedicated to creating opportunities for Hong Kong businesses. Under his stewardship the HKTDC expanded its intercontinental network, staged world-class exhibitions and championed Hong Kong's role as Asia's business bridge.

In 2014, at the age of 55, Mr Lam demonstrated his remarkable capacity for reinvention by making a significant transition when he took on the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK). He understood the intrinsic link between trade and aviation, viewing both as powerful engines for Hong Kong's economy, his risk-taking spirit guided by a clear philosophy he describes as "bold in ambition, yet meticulous in execution."

This philosophy was immediately put to the test: with Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) facing saturation, Mr Lam championed the Three-Runway System to secure our city's future as an international aviation hub. Yet, his plans went beyond infrastructure. He introduced a transformative Airport City concept, a blueprint to advance HKIA from a travel hub into a mega lifestyle and economic landmark. In January 2025, this dream was given a new identity, SKYTOPIA, a universal brand to attract investment and talent. And, recognising the importance of expertise, he resolved to establish the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy in order to nurture the professionals who keep our skies safe and our economy vibrant.

Mr Lam's leadership is defined by the blend of grand vision and a user-oriented mindset. He believes in walking the floor of the airport, understanding the passenger journey, and seeking

improvement. His determination to make HKIA the “most liked airport in the world” has driven world-first innovations, from the operational use of driverless vehicles to the implementation of facial recognition technology for the entire departure system.

He has long advocated the importance of air cargo to Hong Kong’s trade and economy, and, having set out a strategy for HKIA to make the best of the worldwide shifts in trade models, was instrumental in encouraging logistics giants to establish a major hub at HKIA. He also pioneered a state-of-the-art offshore logistics park in Dongguan to seize new opportunities in the Greater Bay Area.

When the COVID-19 pandemic brought unprecedented challenges, Mr Lam’s leadership stood out. He motivated the airport community, ensuring resilience while actively preparing for recovery. His initiative in giving away 500,000 free air tickets created worldwide goodwill and kept Hong Kong on the global tourism map. In June 2024, he was appointed Chairman of the AAHK, providing continuity of vision as his transformative projects come to fruition.

Mr Lam has received numerous accolades for his exemplary service. He was named Director of the Year by the Hong Kong Institute of Directors in 2007. In 2019, he received the Executive Award of the DHL/SCMP Hong Kong Business Awards, and was elected a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport. The United States Government gave him the Peace Through Commerce Medal Award for his contribution to promoting trade between the US and Hong Kong, and in 2022 he was awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star by the HKSAR Government in recognition of his contribution to the development of HKIA and the aviation industry.

Beyond these honours, Mr Lam is much admired for his integrity and for his core belief that great infrastructure must serve the community. His principles of being steadfast and responsible in every task are reflected in his dedication to the highest standards of safety, security, and environmental sustainability. This enthusiasm for responsible, value-creating modernisation resonates deeply with Lingnan University’s own liberal arts values, and our commitment to serving society.

Mr Chairman, in recognition of his visionary leadership, his profound impact on Hong Kong’s economic development, and his unwavering dedication to public service, I respectfully present Mr Lam Tin-fuk for the conferment of an honorary fellow of Lingnan University.

Citation written and delivered by Professor Chen Ting-ting

林天福先生，GBS, JP

榮譽院士

贊辭

有些人的事業與我們城市的脈絡緊密交織，他們的故事也就是香港的故事。身為一位具遠見的領袖，林天福先生的經歷正是如此：其職業生涯不僅見證了香港近四十年的經濟騰飛，更同時塑造了這段輝煌的歷程。

林先生在香港成長並完成早期教育，其後赴倫敦帝國學院升學，取得計算機學榮譽學位。其後，林先生加入香港政府，任職政務官，在此經歷了根本性的轉變——工作不單是為了滿足家庭經濟的需要，更要負起服務社會的使命。這新發現的成就感與公民責任感，成為他職業生涯的重要指標。

1986年，林先生加入香港貿易發展局，展開長達28年的非凡旅程。2004年晉升為總裁後，他領導國際團隊為香港企業創造機遇。在其任內，貿發局拓展網絡，舉辦國際級展覽，並鞏固香港作為亞洲商業橋樑的角色。

2014年，55歲的林先生展現卓越的轉型能力，出任香港機場管理局行政總裁。他深諳貿易與航空的內在聯繫，視二者為香港經濟的雙引擎，並以「志存高遠，執行細緻」的哲學引領創新。

這一理念立即面臨考驗：面對香港國際機場的客貨運容納量趨近飽和，他力推三跑道系統以鞏固香港國際航空樞紐的地位。其規劃更超越基礎建設，提出將機場升級為「機場城市」的變革性概念——使香港國際機場從交通樞紐蛻變為巨型生活與經濟地標。2025年1月，此藍圖以「SKYTOPIA」新形象面向世界，以國際化品牌吸引投資與人才。他更創立香港國際航空學院，培育保障航空安全與經濟活力的專業人才。

林先生的領導力融合宏大視野與以用家為本的理念，他堅持親身巡查機場及體察旅客路線以尋求改進，推動香港國際機場成為「全球最受歡迎機場」的願景，共催生了多項全球創舉，從無人駕駛車輛的應用到全面使用離境人臉識別技術，均比人先行一著。

林先生長期倡導提升空運對香港貿易經濟的重要性，並制定策略，使機場能藉着全球貿易模式變革的機遇，成功吸引物流巨頭在此設立區域樞紐，更率先在東莞建立先進離岸物流園以捕捉大灣區新機遇。

當新冠疫情帶來前所未有的挑戰時，林先生的領導能力尤見突出。他凝聚機場社群力量，積極籌劃復蘇策略。他贈送50萬張免費機票的創舉，為香港贏得國際美譽，穩固其全球旅遊樞紐的地位。林先生於2024年6月獲委任為機管局主席後，持續推動及落實其計劃中的變革項目，冀能讓香港的航空事業邁向更光明的前景。

林先生獲獎無數：2007年獲香港董事學會頒授傑出董事獎；2019年榮獲DHL南華早報香港商業獎頒發傑出管理獎，並當選香港運輸物流學會院士。此外，美國商務部曾頒發Peace through Commerce獎章以表彰林先生促進美港貿易的貢獻；2022年，林先生更獲香港特別行政區政府頒授金紫荊星章，肯定其對機場及航空業發展的貢獻。

超越榮譽之外，林先生廉潔自持的品格與「基建必須服務社會」的核心信念更令人敬重。他對安全、保安及環境可持續性的最高標準堅持，體現了其恪守責任的原則。這種負責任、創造價值的現代化理念，與嶺南大學博雅教育價值觀及服務社會的承諾深度契合。

主席閣下，林天福先生深具遠見卓識，為表彰林先生對香港經濟發展的深遠影響及其對公共服務的無私奉獻，本人謹恭請 閣下頒授嶺南大學榮譽院士銜予林天福先生。

贊辭由陳婷婷教授撰寫及宣讀