Doctor of Laws honoris causa
The Hon Antony Kam Chung LEUNG
Citation

The universities in Hong Kong have emerged from the metamorphosis of the early 1990s with a distinctive emphasis on quality and excellence, largely through the initiative of the immediate past chairman of the University Grants Committee (UGC), the Honourable Andrew Li Kwok-Nang, SC, JP, whom we honoured in 1993, and the Honourable Antony Kam Chung LEUNG, JP, whom we honour today.

After a period of rapid expansion of Hong Kong’s higher education institutions (HEIs) from 1989 to 1994, Mr Leung, upon assuming the chairmanship of the UGC in 1993, pledged that efforts should be directed towards the improvement of quality, with the aim of making Hong Kong a regional centre of excellence in higher education. The recent expansion and enhancement of the HEIs now embrace 18% of Hong Kong’s youth. As Hong Kong braces itself to face an economic downturn, the role of university graduates in helping to create and meet demand for new technologies and new businesses has never been more important. Hong Kong has at its disposal a new generation of intellectuals which has come through a radically enhanced university system. They are the beneficiaries of the bold initiative of the UGC, under Mr Leung’s leadership.

Mr Leung introduced a three-pronged approach to enhance Hong Kong’s higher education system: the “Teaching and Learning Quality Process Review” (TLQPR), the “Research Assessment Exercise” (RAE) and reviews by the Research Grants Council (RGC), and the “Management Review”. During his early years as UGC chairman, research grants through the RGC grew in value by a steady 20% per annum in real terms. As a result, a research culture has now been firmly established in Hong Kong. Mr Leung encouraged each institution to pursue areas of excellence according to its strengths and development strategies. Mr Leung also insisted that Hong Kong should be an outward-looking city for students in higher education. His vision is that Hong Kong’s graduates should be creative, be able to think critically, be truly bi-literate and trilingual, possess a broad and liberal education, have the urge and ability to pursue excellence, and be strongly committed to Hong Kong and China but global in outlook.

Mr Leung himself went through the Hong Kong educ-
cation system. He received his university education at the University of Hong Kong, majoring in economics and statistics. Upon completing the degree of Bachelor of Social Sciences in 1973, he entered the world of banking. He also completed the Program for Management Development at Harvard Business School in 1982. In his 25 years of experience in banking, Mr. Leung has held various top management positions in private banking, corporate banking and investment banking. At Citibank, he became the division executive for investment banking (Southwest Asia) in Manila in 1986, and division executive for investment banking (North Asia) in Hong Kong from 1987 to 1993. He was made Citibank’s regional manager for Hong Kong and China in 1992, and division executive for private banking (Asia-Pacific) in Singapore in 1996. In October 1996, Mr. Leung was invited by Chase Manhattan Bank to become its managing director and regional manager for Greater China and the Philippines.

Mr. Leung is currently an Executive Councillor of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Chairman of its Education Commission. He was the mastermind behind the highly encouraging educational policy in the Chief Executive’s speech delivered shortly after the return of Hong Kong to China. The message of the Chief Executive was loud and clear: “The Hong Kong SAR Government will invest in education, to ensure a bright future for the region.” Many new initiatives, such as the Quality Education Fund and the enhancement of the quality of teachers, have since been launched. More choices and types of school, other than the government and subvented sectors, are to be made available to parents and students. The impact of these initiatives will be felt in the years to come. Mr. Leung’s hope is to promote life-long learning in Hong Kong and make Hong Kong a learned and a learning society.

Mr. Leung’s contributions to public service reach far and wide. In the 1980s and early 1990s, he was a director of the Hong Kong Futures Exchange, a member of the Industrial Development Board and the Hong Kong Community Chest, and a part-time member of the Hong Kong Government’s Central Policy Unit. Since 1995 he has been a member of the Exchange Fund Advisory Committee, a board member of the Hong Kong Airport Authority, and a trustee of the Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research. He is a member of the Preparatory Committee of the Hong Kong SAR, the Land Fund Advisory Committee and a director of the Hong Kong Policy Research Institute. His service is much sought after by the PRC Government. He is a member of the Shanghai–Hong Kong Council for the Pro-

是經濟及統計學。他在 1973 年取得社會科學學士學位後，他加入了銀行工作，展開了他在銀行界的事業。1982年他在著名的哈佛大學商學院完成了一項管理課程。在他悠長的二十五年銀行事業中，先生曾在不同性的銀行業務範圍擔任要職。他自 1973 年開始在萬國補通銀行任職，並於1996年10月獲邀出任大通銀行董事經理至今。

先生現為香港特別行政區的行政會議成員及教育政策委員會主席。首在去年香港回歸後發表的第一份施政報告，其中令人鼓舞的教育政策，背後的推動人就是梁振英先生。首的信念是明確不變的：特區政府會致力投資在教育上，以確保區內能有一個光明的前途。隨後政府推出多個新意念，包括優質教育基金與提升教師的素質等。此外亦多了一些不同種類的學校以供家長與學生們選擇。這些新意念所帶來的影響將在未來的日子慢慢浮現出來。梁先生希望在香港推動終身教育的風氣，並希望將香港變成一個熱愛學習的社會。

梁先生在公共服務的貢獻可謂既深且廣。他在 1980 年代至 90 年代初，曾出任香港期貨交易所董事局成員、工業發展委員會成員、香港公益金董事，及香港政府中央政策研究組兼任成員。自 1995 年起，他又出任外匯基金諮詢委員會成員、香港機場管理局董事局成員，及香港經濟研究中心信託人。他亦是特區籌備委員會成員、土地基金諮詢委員會成員與香港政策研究所董事。中國政府也很重視梁先生所提供的服務。他是“當江開發進港促進會”的成員及國務院屬下的一個經濟組織的成員。他亦是中國國際經貿仲裁組織的仲裁員之一。

從梁先生歷年來履行殊榮的事實，可印證他在事業上及社會服務的傑出成就。舉例說，他除

11
motion and Development of Yangtze and the Chinese Society of Macroeconomics under the State Planning Commission. He serves as an arbitrator for the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission.

Mr Leung’s distinguished achievements have been recognized through the many honours he has received, including the Executive Award by the South China Morning Post and DHL, nomination as one of the Global Leaders for Tomorrow by the World Economics Forum, appointment as Justice of the Peace, and the award of the OBE.

Mr Leung sees Hong Kong as a predominantly knowledge-based economy. Hong Kong must therefore have highly educated and well-trained human resources. His grand vision is for Hong Kong to become the Manhattan ‘Plus’ of East Asia and the world metropolis of the East. He argues that we must maximize the advantage of our geographical location to benefit from the rapid growth of the Greater China economy, but be always outward looking and globally linked. We need to plan our economy, environment and infrastructure for the enhancement of our quality of life, making Hong Kong a society that is prosperous, free and yet highly civilized, with great taste in art and culture. As Hong Kong fights its way through the turbulent waters of the Asia-Pacific financial crisis, we need those who can engineer the turnaround of the economy through innovative economic policies and far-sighted educational initiatives. Mr Leung, in his dual role as a distinguished banker and chairman of the Education Commission, is exactly the kind of person we must look to in halting the economic downturn and helping Hong Kong to emerge stronger, healthier and more competitive.

Mr Chancellor, I have the honour to present, on behalf of the University, the Honourable Antony Kam Chung Leung, Managing Director & Regional Manager of the Chase Manhattan Bank, and Chairman of the Education Commission, for the degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa.