

## Mr Patrick Wu Po-kong

### Address

Mr Chairman, President Edward Chen, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of all four honorees, I wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the Court, the Council, the President, and all the staff and students of Lingnan for the honour that has been bestowed on us. I myself feel doubly honoured, since I have been asked to address the congregation on behalf of the four honorees on this glorious occasion.

When I was first approached to be a speaker on this occasion, I asked myself why I was chosen to represent this year's group of honorees. I have never been known to be an eloquent speaker, perhaps not even a competent one. Neither do I have the intellectual wisdom of Professor Patrick; I lack the courage and resilience of Dr Lee; nor do I have the dedication to the unification of China which Dr Wong has shown. I have been chosen, I believe, because of my life long association with Lingnan.

Indeed, I will not deny that, for over half a century, I have been closely associated with Lingnan.

When I was a child, Lingnan was a name of the place I went everyday for my basic education. When I grew older, Lingnan was already a well-known name associated with quality education. For the past quarter of a century, I have been actively associated with Lingnan's planning, management and development.

In all these years, many components that make up Lingnan have changed and - in my opinion - all for the better. It has moved from a small site with a few dilapidated buildings squeezed between steep hilly slopes on Stubbs Road to a modern tailor-made well-equipped campus. With funding from the University Grants Committee (UGC), at per capita level comparable to the best in the region if not the world, it has soon attained the highest academic and management standards and has been re-constituted as an autonomous degree granting institution.

Among all these new developments, two key elements have remained unchanged: Lingnan's mission and the loyalty of its alumni. The provision of quality education and education for the whole person has always been and will continue to be the mission of the university. The loyalty and support of our alumni to the development of Lingnan perhaps need no elaboration here. In all these years, alumni, young and old, with different backgrounds, holding diverse positions in Hong Kong, China and overseas, have enthusiastically contributed in wide-ranging ways to the development of Lingnan. This is particularly meaningful in the pre-UGC funding era when resources were scarce.

Lingnan alumni will never forget the timely, generous and substantial donations made by a few individuals when Lingnan faced major financial crisis on more than one occasion. Immediately after World War II, when resources of all kinds were scarce in Hong Kong, an alumnus took over full financial responsibility for the mortgage repayment on the Stubbs Road site so that Lingnan could continue to operate a school without being evicted. Without this gallant gesture, Lingnan would have lost its home base 55 years ago, and would scarcely have been in a position to exchange for the beautiful Tuen Mun campus, where it is situated today. On another occasion, an alumnus donated what is today's worth would have been HK\$5 million to cover the staff payroll, thus sparing the college from embarrassment of an ugly labour dispute and its students from likely disruption to their education. Some years later, to ensure that Lingnan would be well prepared for assessment for official recognition and be eligible for UGC funding, another alumnus used his own funds to commission a top-flight team

of academics from overseas to organize an internal assessment exercise. The love of these alumni for Lingnan and their concern for education are indelible chapters in the Lingnan legacy. The high spirit and the contributions of our alumni have always been the envy of many institutions. There is no doubt that without the long tradition of Lingnan, and the contributions of its alumni in all these years, Lingnan would not occupy the position it does today.

With the rapid pace of development in the world towards a global community, the result of unimaginable innovations, developments in information technology, and convenience in air travel, education, banking (my own profession), communication, and practically all kinds of human activities have to change if their noble missions are to be achieved. As a result, there is scarcely an area of human activity that has not been revolutionized by the radical changes in the last generation. It is now obvious that in the 21st century, continuing improvement is essential for survival and creative innovation is crucial for progress.

It is most gratifying to note that Lingnan with its solid foundation built on long and hallowed traditions has taken an approach that is in line if not ahead of current trends in education and human development. When our students study and learn within the bounds of the campus, they enjoy easy access to all kinds of information in the library, through the world wide web, and under the intellectual guidance of teachers who put them in touch with developments all over the world. While the logo of the university reminds us that Lingnan has its origin and base in the Pearl River Delta and profiles of students show that almost all our students are from Hong Kong, newly established exchange activities, in the form of visits, seminars, lectures, and other forms of international cooperation, have brought our faculty and students in direct contact with peers from other cultures.

Lingnan is now a Hong Kong-based institution with an international commitment and outlook. The breadth of Lingnan's perspective is well reflected by the achievements of my fellow honorees. From Professor Patrick, I have learned that beyond economic and financial analyses, studies of and respect for other cultures can enhance healthier and more productive developments in international trade and commerce. Dr Wong has demonstrated to us that effective linkages among people of the same ethnicity can contribute constructively towards the noble mission of uniting people with opposing political views under one nation. Dr Lee shows us that beyond all the knowledge that is documented by various academic and professional disciplines, human curiosity, courage and resilience can prompt an individual to venture into remote and unexplored territories and encounter new phenomena and new ways of thinking beyond our imaginings. Their achievements remind me once again that progress in human civilization crucially depends on seeking out harmony in diversity. My fellow honorees have made outstanding contributions in bridging gaps between cultural, political and intellectual diversities. It is gratifying to note that in the development of Lingnan, among all those who are involved under the long traditions of Lingnan, despite the disparity in our views, we have been able to attain a constructive harmony and we have come up with a system and an approach that will lead us to progress even further in the 21st century. I am proud to be associated with this process.

Mr Chairman, President Chen, the degree that has been bestowed on me is more than just an honour. It has prompted me to think more about and come to a better understanding of the true meaning of total education. For a banker, this intellectual process is a rarity and a luxury. In my life, I cannot say that I have achieved academic excellence. Indeed, if you ask me, I am not a particularly well educated person. Yet standing here today, I feel truly part of an intellectual community whose combined values, traditions, wisdom and achievements reflect the real quality of a total education, an education that it is our privilege to transmit to future generations.

## 伍步剛先生

### 致辭

主席先生、陳坤耀校長、各位嘉賓：

我謹代表四位榮譽博士學位領受人，為著今天的殊榮，衷心向嶺南大學諮議會、校董會及全體師生致謝。對我來說，能夠獲頒榮譽學位外，更被邀請在這光輝的一刻代表致辭，實在倍感榮幸。

在獲邀之初，我曾想過我被選中代表致辭的原因。我從來不能說會道見稱，甚至說不上談吐流暢。我既沒有帕德里克教授的學識與睿智，也沒有李樂詩博士的勇氣與堅毅不屈精神，更沒有黃石華博士對一統中國的使命感及將之付諸實行的魄力。我被選為致辭代表，大概是由於長久以來我與嶺南有著不解之緣。

此言非虛。在這半個世紀以來，我一直與嶺南有著緊密的聯繫。

嶺南是我年幼時接受基礎教育的地方，隨著年紀漸長，嶺南已成為優質教育的代名詞。過去的四份一世紀，我積極參與嶺南教育機構各項策劃、管理及發展工作。

回顧過去，嶺南產生了很多的變化，而且是不斷向好的方向發展。嶺南大學已從位於司徒拔道陡峭山坡上只有幾幢破舊校舍的狹小舊址，遷至一個全新建造及設備齊全的校園。大學教育資助委員會（「教資會」）每年撥款資助嶺南，以人均來算，其金額可媲美世界或區內一流學府，嶺南大學旋即成為一所高學術水平、管理優良及獨立自主的大學。

芸芸改變之中，有兩項嶺南精神貫徹始終：嶺南的辦學宗旨及校友對母校的忠誠支持。就第一項來說，嶺南大學秉承其一貫宗旨，長期以來為莘莘學子提供優質的全人教育。至於第二項，即歷屆校友對母校那份矢志不渝的支持和熱忱，相信我也不用多說。數十年來，嶺南的校友不分年長或年青，不分在香港、中國抑或海外，不分在社會中的工作崗位，都義不容辭地在不同範疇內為嶺南的發展獻上心力。這在嶺南大學資源短絀、未獲「教資會」撥款資助的日子裏，尤其顯得意義非凡。

嶺南校友絕不會忘記在過去幾段財政困難時期，好幾位校友在緊急關頭作出及時與慷慨的大筆捐款。二次世界大戰後，香港社會資源貧乏，一名校友自告奮勇地全力承擔司徒拔道校址的按揭供款，以紓緩學校的經濟壓力。沒有他的鼎力承擔，嶺南或許於五十五年前就喪失了校址，無法與政府磋商交換屯門幽美校園的條件。另外一位校友，得悉嶺南面臨財政短絀，包括未能支付教師薪金，另勢將出現勞資糾紛及學生被迫停課的困難，不惜慷慨地一次過捐出相等於今天五百萬元的巨款。又有一名校友，為了使嶺南大學順利

通過「教資會」的評審以納入資助體系內，自掏腰包聘請了一流的海外學者顧問團到嶺南考察並提意見，以使嶺南能順利通過評審。這群熱心校友對嶺南的愛護及對教育的關注，永留我們的心中，成為嶺南歷史重要的一章。無可否認，倘若嶺南沒有源遠流長的傳統，沒有舊生一直以來的捐助，它決不能享有今天的地位。

全球正以急速的步伐邁向一體化，從前難以想像的發明相繼出現，加上資訊科技日新月異的發展，航空交通的日益方便，教育、銀行業（我的老本行）、交通等均面臨很多的衝擊。各行各業若要實踐崇高的使命，便需要推陳出新。上一代人類活動都呈現了各式各樣的革命性變化，足以證明我們非改變不可。踏入二十一世紀，我們知道不斷改進才是生存之道，大膽創新才是進步的關鍵。

嶺南不但擁有悠長而輝煌的傳統，而且採取與時並進及前瞻的教育方針，令人倍感欣慰。嶺南大學學生得以在幽美校園內學習，享用先進的圖書館及萬維網設備，接受老師循循善誘式的教導，與世界最新的發展動向保持著緊密的聯繫。一方面，嶺南的校徽提醒我們與珠江三角洲的淵源，另一方面，入學資料顯示學生經常透過各種形式的國際交流與合作活動如訪問及講座等，讓學生與來自不同文化背景的青年人保持聯繫。

今天的嶺南大學，是一所放眼世界、懷抱天下、以香港為本位的學府，在座三位榮譽博士的傑出成就正好印証了這廣闊的國際視野。從休奇·帕德里克教授身上，我學會了鑽研經濟學問的認真態度。別國文化，從而促使國際商貿的發展更趨健全及更具競爭力。李樂詩博士向我們展示，同屬一個種族的人群，要更有成效地連繫起石來，縱使各持不同甚至敵對的政見，依然可以為一統國家這大目標作出正面的貢獻。李樂詩博士憑著個人的求知精神、勇氣及堅毅不屈的意志，終於超越學術或專業知識的界限，拓展了未及的領域，開闢了一片新景象，並創出超乎想像的新里程。他的成就，揭示了人類的文明進步，有賴於在分歧中尋求和諧。各位榮譽博士學位領受人，擔任了文化上、政治上及思想上消弭分歧的橋樑角色。更令我欣慰的，隨著嶺南的發展，在悠久與優良傳統的孕育下，校友，雖觀點不一，各有取向，然而大家的始終以和諧為目標並創建了一套能在二十一世紀裏更上一層樓的發展系統及處世之道。我能置身當中的過程，實在深感榮幸。

主席先生及陳校長，你們頒予我的博士銜不僅是我的光榮，更策勵我對全人教育的真義作深入探討。對一個銀行家來說，這思過程實在是一項難能可貴的經驗。在我的人生歷程裏，我談不上已在學術方面有卓越的成就，甚至我認為自己的學識並不特別豐富，但今天站在這裏的我，深切感受到自己是嶺南大學這個充滿睿智的學術團體的一分子，而各成員的價值觀、傳統、成就正好反映了全人教育的真正意義。深信嶺南大學會以薪火相傳的精神，繼續為下一代提供全人教育，培育社會領袖。