

Mr Lo Tak-shing

Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*
Citation

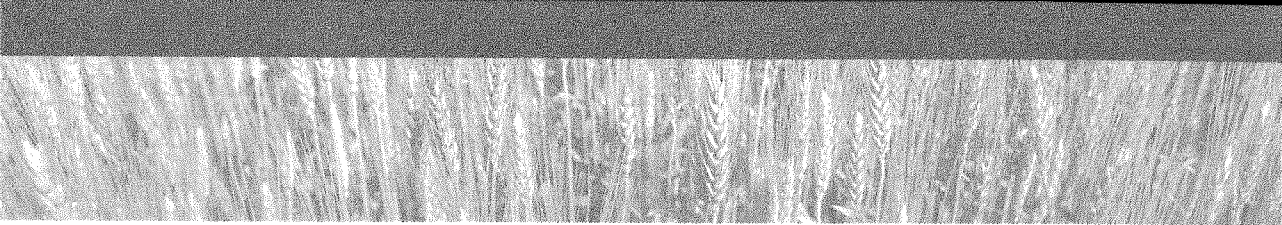
Mr Chancellor, this citation begins with a citation, and more specifically, with the following aphorism by Mr Lo Tak-shing: "Realism may sound cynical, but cynicism is never realistic".

What wisdom, based on long and insightful experience, does this aphorism express? Realism may sound cynical to the ears of those whose idealism blinds them to the actual constraints of their own situation, constraints that a good decision must take into account. Although it may seem that way, there is nothing cynical in acknowledging the gap between what is possible and desirable. Yet cynicism cannot be realistic because it wrongly denies that there are values that we can and ought to strive to realize. Mr Chancellor, we have here on stage, in the person of Mr Lo, a distinguished and learned gentleman who has long manifested a realistic and non-cynical spirit in public life.

Mr Lo was born in Hong Kong and received his earliest education in the form of home schooling during the Japanese occupation of Hong Kong. After the war, he was sent by his family to Lingnan Primary School in Guangzhou, and was later brought back to Hong Kong to study at Lingnan Middle School. We can thus welcome him today as a most venerable Lingnan alumnus whose personal experience of Lingnan education reaches all the way back to its earliest manifestations and locations. He subsequently studied at Queen's College in Hong Kong, King's College, Taunton, and Wadham College, Oxford University, UK, where he took his MA in Jurisprudence, after which time he returned to make his life in Hong Kong.

Mr Lo's career has been distinguished in many ways. He was awarded the Grand Bauhinia Medal by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in July 1997. He has been a director and vice-chairman of the Henderson Land Development Company Limited since 1981. He is a solicitor and senior partner of Lo & Lo, Solicitors. He was also a director of Swire Pacific Limited. He was the vice-chairman of the Basic Law Consultative Committee, a committee member of the Preliminary Committee of the Preparatory Committee from July 1993, and a committee member of The Preparatory Committee of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region from December 1995. He has served as member and acting Chairman of the Public Service Commission for many years. When he was on the Legislative Council from 1974 to 1985, he was Chairman of the Establishment Sub-Committee of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. In addition, he was Chairman of the Transport Advisory Committee for 2 years, Chairman of the UMELCO Police Group for 7 years, and member of the Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Committee Panel for 20 years. He is currently a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. He had served as President of the Law Society of Hong Kong, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Telephone Services, and was a member of the Preparatory Committee Appointed by the Chinese Government, and a member of the Preliminary Working Committee of that same body. From 1985 he was Vice-Chairman of the Basic Law Consultative Committee, and has served as Chairman of the City Hall Select Committee of the Urban Council, and Chairman of the Provisional Board of Management of The Prince Philip Dental Hospital. This list is merely indicative of the quality and quantity of his public service, as I must omit many items, as well as the many hours of care and concern that a citation cannot begin to relate!

In addition to conducting a very distinguished career in law, business, publishing, and public life in Hong Kong, Mr Lo has contributed to the world of education. He was a member of the English Schools Foundation, and from 1982 to 1985 he was sitting on the Court of the University of Hong Kong. He was also President of the Hong Kong Association for Mentally Handicapped Children and Young Persons Limited. In 1979 he took the initiative to get his old friend, Mr Lee Shau-kee, to make a substantial donation



to Wadham College of Oxford University. The donation funded extensive reconstruction of the college's facilities, as well as a new scholarship programme to help students from Hong Kong study at Wadham. Mr Lo insisted that the selection of Hong Kong students should be made by a selection committee comprised of Hong Kong people. It was also Mr Lo's idea that the 4 students who are selected each year should have no post-graduate obligation to either Wadham or the foundation. In Mr Lo's words, the main concern was "to select students we believed were interested in contributing to society as a whole. We were content to leave it entirely to their own sense of timing when and how they could make that contribution."

The Lee Shau Kee Scholarship tenable at Wadham College has been a great success, which has meant that during the past 26 years, more than 90 students from Hong Kong have been selected for direct admission to Wadham College to pursue their undergraduate degree courses in fields ranging from English Literature to Physics and Computer Science. These students have on the whole returned to Hong Kong where they have contributed actively and successfully to many different walks of life.

Mr Chancellor, we academics, whose business is the pursuit of one type of education, should recognize that education can take many different forms. Education is at bottom a form of leadership, and in Mr Lo we recognize a distinguished leader — an educator in the broadest sense. It is his extensive and very real contributions to both education and to public life more generally that I present Mr Lo Tak-shing to you for the award of the degree of Doctor of Law *honoris causa*.

羅德丞先生

榮譽法學博士

贊辭

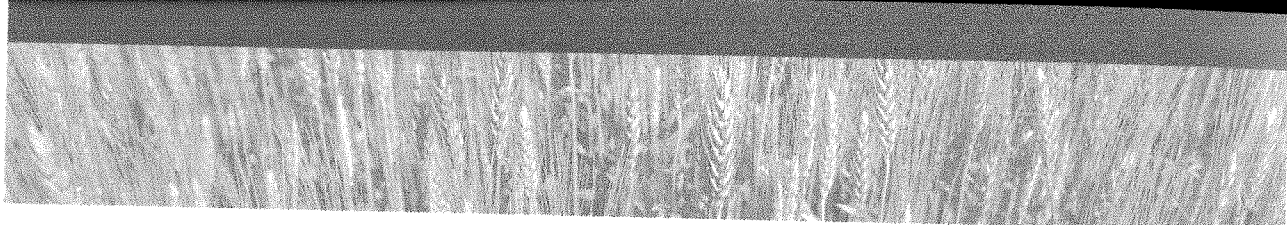
監督先生，本贊辭謹以一句格言作為引子，具體一點來說，這正是羅德丞先生的名句：「現實主義聽起來似嫌犬儒，可是犬儒的思想卻一定不符現實。」

這句格言所蘊含的睿智，是建基於豐富的人生經驗，以及精辟獨到的見解。格言背後的意義是甚麼呢？有些人也許會被理想主義蒙蔽，無法看清現實環境中必須審慎思量的種種限制，對於這些人來說，他們對現實主義存疑。然而，承認現實未許盡如人意，其實一點也不犬儒。可是，犬儒思想卻往往錯誤否定了我們應該努力追求的價值觀，因此往往無法符合現實。監督先生，今天在台上的羅先生，是一位成就傑出的飽學之士，長久以來於公共事務上所展現的精神均貼合實際而無半點犬儒。

羅先生在香港出生，幼年時正值日軍佔領香港，於私塾接受教育，戰後由家人送進廣州嶺南小學就讀，其後返港升讀嶺南中學。今天，我們很高興這位德高望重的校友重回母校的懷抱，羅先生從早年啟蒙受業至今事業有成，充份體現了嶺南的教育精神，實在使我們欣慰。羅先生其後就讀於皇仁書院，並負笈英倫入讀湯頓市英皇書院(King's College, Taunton)及英國牛津大學華頓學院(Wadham College, Oxford, UK)，考獲法理學碩士學位，隨後回港定居。

羅先生在多方面均取得了超卓成就，於1997年7月獲頒授香港特別行政區政府大紫荊勳章。自1981年起，他一直出任恒基兆業地產有限公司董事兼副主席，現為羅文錦律師樓的律師兼高級合夥人，並曾任太古股份有限公司董事一職。羅先生曾擔任基本法諮詢委員會副主席，自1993年7月起擔任香港特別行政區籌備委員會預委會委員，於1995年12月成為香港特別行政區籌委會委員。他曾任公務員敘用委員會委員及署理主席一職多年。1974年至1985年，他擔任立法局議員期間，曾出任該局財務委員會人事編制小組委員會的主席。他亦曾先後出任交通諮詢委員會主席兩年、前行政立法兩局非官守議員警方投訴事宜常務小組主席七年，律師紀律委員會委員二十年，現為中國人民政治協商會議委員。此外，羅先生亦曾任香港律師會會長、香港電話服務諮詢委員會主席、中國政府轄下香港特別行政區籌備委員會委員，以及該會的預委會成員。自1985年起他亦擔任基本法諮詢委員會副主席，曾出任市政局大會堂專責委員會主席，以及菲臘牙科醫院籌備管理委員會主席。上述各項僅屬羅先生的部份公職，由於篇幅所限，本文未能盡錄，更不足以完全反映羅先生在貢獻、關懷社會上所花的時間和心血。

羅先生不僅在香港法律界、商界、出版界以至公共事務上卓有成就，對於推動教育發展亦不遺餘力。他曾任英基學校協會成員，於1982年至1985年間，亦為香港大學校董會成



員，並曾擔任香港智障兒童及青年服務協進會主席一職。早於1979年，他更主動聯絡其好友李兆基先生為牛津大學華頓學院慷慨捐輸，資助全面重建學院設施，並增設獎學金計劃，幫助就讀該校的本港留學生。羅先生堅持由香港人組成遴選委員會，選拔就讀該校的本港留學生，並決定每年經選拔的四位學生毋須對華頓學院或基金會履行任何義務和責任。正如羅先生所言，最重要的是「選出一些立志貢獻社會的學生，我們樂於讓學生自行決定如何、及何時回饋社會」。

華頓學院李兆基獎學金的成績有目共睹，過去二十六年來，合共有九十多位本港學生獲直接錄取入讀華頓學院，修讀英國文學、物理、電腦科學等學士學位課程，而這些留學生畢業後亦大多回港，為社會各階層作出積極貢獻。

監督先生，身為學者，我們所鑽研的是一門教育學科。然而，我們明白，教育其實可以包含不同形式，教育以領導為根本，而羅先生恰恰正是一位出色的領袖，因此從廣義上來說，他也是一位教育家。正因羅先生這種積極參與教育及公共事務的熱忱，我謹此恭請監督先生頒授榮譽法學博士學位予羅德丞先生，以資表揚。