

Sir Gordon Wu Ying-Sheung

Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*

Citation

Sir Gordon Y S Wu is one of the founders of Hopewell Holdings and currently Chairman of the Board. As Managing Director of the group from 1972 through 2002, Sir Gordon guided Hopewell's infrastructure projects in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Southeast Asia, and led the design and construction of several buildings and developments throughout Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Chinese Mainland. Today, Hopewell is one of the premier companies in Asia with active interests in property, highway infrastructure, hospitality and construction industry.

Sir Gordon graduated from Princeton University in 1958. Equipped with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering and a long-term vision for development, he returned to Hong Kong to form the Hopewell Construction Company, the predecessor to Hopewell Holdings. Sir Gordon teamed up with his father (who started Hong Kong's first taxi fleet) to build the real estate development company until his father retired in 1969. In order to secure funds for the growth of the company, Sir Gordon convinced his father to back a HK\$15 million bank loan, which he ended up repaying in just 7 years after many successful commercial, residential and industrial property developments.

In addition to real estate development, Sir Gordon Wu has also become synonymous with infrastructure development. He envisioned the PRC's vast potential early on, and ventured into China shortly after Mr Deng Xiaoping announced the Open Door Policy. "I went forward because I knew that Hong Kong's future was tied to the future of China, whether we liked it or not," he said. In 1979, he recognized the need for developed infrastructure for the modernization of the country and the growth of its economy. He focused early on developing the Pearl River Delta region and built the first modern expressway in China in the early 1990s, the Guangzhou-Shenzhen super-highway. The proof of Sir Gordon's theory that China needed a transportation network now lies in the country's 40,000 km of super-highways, second only to the United States.

Today, Hopewell continues to be active in the Pearl River Delta region, with active and completed projects in Guangzhou, Shunde and Zhuhai, and plans to develop new expressway, tunnel and bridge infrastructure projects in the area. A series of bridges and tunnels connecting Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Macau, which Sir Gordon had lobbied for since 1983, was approved in 2005 by the Central Government in Beijing.

Yet Sir Gordon's vision for developing infrastructure encompasses much more than just Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland. His buildings, power stations, super-highways and bridges can also be found in the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand. A series of energy infrastructure investments in the Philippines led former President Fidel Ramos to call Sir Gordon "the man who turned the lights on." In 1997, Sir Gordon was appointed Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George by the Queen of England for services to British exports.

Aside from a vibrant entrepreneurial spirit, Sir Gordon's parents also instilled in him the value of education. Eager for others around the world to enjoy the benefits of an education at his *alma mater*, Sir Gordon made his first gift to Princeton in 1981, establishing the Gordon Wu '58 Professorship of Chinese Studies. His contributions over the years include an additional professorship, funds for a materials science lab and Wu Hall, a dining facility in one of the school's residential colleges. Sir Gordon's generosity culminated in completing a US\$100 million pledge to Princeton's School of Engineering and Applied Science in 1995, which at the time was the largest donation in the school's history. Sir Gordon's gifts to Princeton now total more than US\$118 million, and reach students all across campus.

In addition to Princeton, Sir Gordon's kindness has also reached the University of Winnipeg in Manitoba, Canada. In honor of his father, Sir Gordon established the Wu Chung Scholarship Fund with a gift of CDN\$1 million. The fund supports students with outstanding academic achievements and leadership potential from Huadu, his ancestral hometown in the region of Guangzhou. Sir Gordon, who spent a year studying in Winnipeg before Princeton, said "My wish is for the students of Huadu to dedicate themselves to their studies in Canada so they might return with both a university degree and a wealth of knowledge of a larger world." The Wu family and Sir Gordon also made significant donations to the following universities in Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The University of Hong Kong, City University of Hong Kong, Lingnan University, Hong Kong Baptist University, and The Hong Kong Institute of Education.

For his contributions to Hong Kong, Sir Gordon received the Gold Bauhinia Star from the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) in 2004. He is a member of the Commission on Strategic Development of the Hong Kong SAR, a member of the Hong Kong Logistic Development Council, advisor to the Urban Renewal Authority, member of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Vice President of the Hong Kong Real Estate Developer's Association and former Chairman of the University Council of both The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and City University of Hong Kong.

Sir Gordon is also a member of the Business Advisory Council to the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank and a member of the APEC Business Advisory Council. He was named International CEO of the Year by George Washington University in 1996 and Leader of the Year in the Business/Finance category by the Sing Tao Daily and The Standard in 2003. He has received honorary doctorate degrees from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the University of Strathclyde and the University of Edinburgh in the UK.

Sir Gordon has also been awarded the title of Honorary Citizen of the City of New Orleans in the United States, the Cities of Guangzhou, Shunde, Nanhai, Shenzhen and Huadu in the PRC, as well as the Province of Quezon in the Philippines.

Mr Chancellor, Sir Gordon is one of Hong Kong's pre-eminent businessmen and philanthropists, whose leadership and generosity extends beyond Hong Kong to reach people and students around the world. May I now present Sir Gordon Wu to you for the award of the degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*.

胡應湘爵士

榮譽法學博士

贊辭

胡應湘爵士是合和實業有限公司創辦人之一，現任集團董事會主席。一九七二至二零零二年期間胡爵士出任董事總經理，帶領合和集團在中國及東南亞發展基建項目，並成為香港及內地的大廈和其他項目的設計、建造的領導者。今天，合和集團在亞洲享負盛名，積極參與房地產、公路建設、酒店和建造業的投資和建設。

胡爵士於一九五八年在普林斯頓大學畢業，取得土木工程理學學士學位。他擁有長遠發展的眼光，回港後成立了合和建築有限公司，即合和實業前身。胡爵士的父親胡忠先生在香港建立了首個的士車隊。其後他們父子共同創辦公司，發展房地產，他的父親在一九六九年退休。為了籌集資金，胡爵士說服了父親，為他向銀行貸款港幣一千五百萬元作背書。由於在工商和住宅物業項目的發展十分成功，他於七年內把銀行貸款還清。

除了房地產發展以外，胡爵士跟基建發展也有密切的關係。他很久以前已看準中國巨大的發展潛力。在鄧小平先生宣布中國採取開放政策後不久，他便進軍內地市場。「我知道，無論我們喜歡與否，香港的未來跟中國的未來息息相關，所以我踏出此步」。一九七九年，隨著中國的現代化和經濟發展，他洞悉基建設施的需求，於是早期集中發展珠江三角洲的基礎建設，並於九十年代初，興建了中國首條現代化高速公路，即廣深高速公路。中國現有四萬多公里的高速公路，僅次於美國，這證明了胡爵士認為中國需要一個交通網絡理論的正確性。

今天，合和集團仍然活躍於珠江三角洲。繼在廣東、順德、珠海完成了工程項目，集團現在計劃在當地發展嶄新的快速公路、隧道及橋樑。自一九八三年起，胡爵士開始就興建連結香港、珠海及澳門的橋樑和隧道進行遊說工作，有關項目於二零零五年獲得北京中央政府批准。

胡爵士的眼光已遠超越香港及中國大陸的基建發展項目。在菲律賓、印尼及泰國均可找到他興建的大廈、發電廠、超級高速公路和橋樑。由於他在菲律賓進行一系列能源項目的投資，前總統拉莫斯稱胡爵士為「點燈之人」。一九九七年，為表揚胡爵士對英國出口工業的貢獻，英女皇頒授聖米迦勒及聖喬治爵級司令勳章予胡爵士。

除了擁有企業家的活力，胡爵士的父母向他灌輸教育的重要性。為了讓世界各地的人能受益於他母校的教育，胡爵士於一九八一年向普林斯頓大學作出第一筆捐款，成立了胡應湘一九五八年級中國研究講座教授席位。過去多年，他又捐款建立另一個講座教授席位，興建一個材料科學實驗室及校園內其中一個宿舍的食堂、胡氏會堂等。一九九五年，胡爵士完成了捐贈給普林斯頓大學工程及應用科學學院一億美元的承諾。當時這筆款項是該學院有史以來收到最大筆的認捐。到目前為止，胡爵士給普林斯頓大學的捐款已超越一億一千八百萬美元，讓該校整個校園的學生能受益。

除了普林斯頓，胡爵士的善心惠及加拿大馬尼托巴省的溫尼伯大學。為紀念他的父親，他認捐了一百萬元加幣成立胡忠獎學金基金，資助來自他廣東的家鄉花都成績優異並具有領導潛質的學生。胡爵士在普林斯頓大學就讀前曾在溫尼伯學習一年。他說：「我希望花都的學生用心在加拿大唸書，讓他們獲得大學學位，同時豐富他們對世界的認識。」胡氏家族及胡爵士

對香港地區的大學也作出了巨大捐獻，捐助對象包括香港中文大學、香港大學、香港城市大學、嶺南大學、香港浸會大學及香港教育學院等。

為表揚胡爵士對香港的貢獻，二零零四年香港特別行政區政府頒發金紫荊勳章予胡爵士。他現任政府策略發展委員會委員、香港物流發展局成員、市區重建局顧問、香港貿易發展局成員、香港地產建設商會副會長，並曾擔任香港理工大學及香港城市大學校董會主席等公職。

胡爵士同時也是世界銀行屬下國際金融公司的商業諮詢委員會委員、亞太經濟合作組織商業諮詢委員會成員。一九九六年他被喬治華盛頓大學評為該年度的「國際行政總裁」殊榮，星島日報和英文虎報亦選他為「二零零三年商業/金融界傑出領袖」榮銜。胡爵士分別獲香港理工大學、英國的史特拉斯克萊德大學及愛丁堡大學頒授榮譽博士學位。

此外，胡爵士又榮獲不同地區頒發的榮譽市民殊榮，包括美國新奧爾良市、中國的廣州、順德、南海、深圳和花都市以及菲律賓的奎松市。

監督先生，胡爵士是香港一位極其傑出的商人和慈善家，他的領導才能和善心讓香港甚至世界各地的人士及學生受惠。我謹此恭請閣下頒授榮譽法學博士學位予胡應湘爵士。