

## Professor Ruth Hayhoe and Professor John Elliott Awarded Honorary Doctorate Degrees by the HKIEd

27 October 2002

The Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd) will confer Doctor of Education, honoris causa, on eminent scholar in comparative education Professor Ruth Hayhoe and acclaimed action research scholar Professor John Elliott at the Institute's 8th Graduation Ceremony on 16 November 2002.

Professor Ruth Hayhoe, former Director of the HKIEd, is no stranger to the education community in Hong Kong. She served as the second Director of the Institute in 1997 - 2002 and brought with her a wealth of expertise, knowledge and experience in teacher education. She retired from the Institute in 2002 but continues her academic pursuits and interacts with the education profession actively.

Hailed as a distinguished scholar in comparative education and sinology, Professor Hayhoe has made substantive contribution and commitment to the advancement of education both internationally and in Asia, in particular the betterment of teacher education and educational landscape in Hong Kong through her services at local education bodies.

Professor Hayhoe first arrived Hong Kong 35 years ago and taught in Heep Yunn School for 11 years in 1967-1978. She then served as a foreign specialist teaching western literature and journalistic writing in Fudan University, Shanghai in 1980-82. She then took up the important role as Head of Cultural & Academic Affairs at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing in 1989-1991. She has also been appointed as advisory or visiting professor of 10 major universities in China. During these years of living in the East, Professor Hayhoe developed a very good understanding of China and the Chinese culture. She has published very extensively in the education field from a comparative perspective.

Professor Hayhoe was Associate Dean of the world-renowned Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto before she joined the HKIEd. She earned her MA and PhD degrees in comparative education from the Institute of Education, University of London. She has been conferred the title of Honorary Fellow by the Institute of Education, University of London, and an honorary title of Director Emeritus (now known as President Emeritus) by the HKIEd Council.

In the last twenty years she has published over 100 papers, articles and books covering areas related to the values, culture, policies and modernisation of China, as well as its education and universities.

Professor John Elliott is Professor of Education at the University of East Anglia within the Centre for Applied Research in Education which he directed from 1996 to 1999. He is also a former Dean of the School of Education and Professional Development there.

Professor Elliott has been commended as the "father of action research" for his internationally renowned role in developing the theory and practice of action research in education. He has also directed a number of funded collaborative classroom research projects and has been involved in policy-oriented evaluation research.

Professor Elliott has also served as a consultant to numerous national and international organisations. He presently serves as an Advisory Professor to the Hong Kong Institute of Education, and as a consultant to Hong Kong's Curriculum Development Institute (CDI) under the Education Department on the strategic development of its curriculum reform proposals. Professor Elliott is the author and editor of a number of well-known publications in the fields of curriculum and teacher professional development. His contribution in the development of the HKIEd and as a champion of educational reform in Hong Kong through his work with CDI is an important driving force behind the improvement of education in Hong Kong.

The conferment will take place at the second session of the Institute's 8th Graduation to be held on 16 November 2002 on its Tai Po campus.



Professor John Elliott



Professor Ruth Hayhoe

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For media enquiries and requests for interviews with the awardees, please call Miss Edith Tam, Information Officer, at 2948 6053, or Miss Camilla Lau, Assistant Information Officer, at 2948 6051.