

Honorary Fellowship Presentation Ceremony 2018
Address by the President
Professor Stephen Cheung Yan-leung, BBS, JP,
Officier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques

Council Chairman and Members, distinguished guests, colleagues and students, ladies and gentlemen,

I am most delighted to address you on this joyous occasion, as The Education University of Hong Kong is paying tribute to five distinguished individuals: Mr Cheung Man-kwong, Dr Sanly Kam Shau-wan, Dr Michael Mak Hoi-hung, Mr Francis Ngai Wah-sing, and The Honourable Abraham Shek Lai-him.

Coming from different professional backgrounds, the Honorary Fellows have not only excelled in their own fields, but have also devoted themselves to the advancement of education and the betterment of society in various capacities. They have all lived out their ideals and pushed for improvement in society with particular concern for our future generations, the underprivileged and the needy. Very shortly, our orators will deliver citations on them.

In Hong Kong, education matters. The same is true not just for Hong Kong, but also other parts of the world, especially the developing countries in our region. They know very well that an effective education system is a crucial element for social advancement and sustainable growth. We are very honoured to have been recently appointed by the World Bank to be a consultant to help boost Vietnam's teacher education and strengthen the capacity of eight major normal universities. This is a nationwide project that will ultimately benefit more than 600,000 school principals and teachers in Vietnam. We see a lot of potential out there for the application of our knowledge in education and teacher development.

Another piece of good news I would like to share with you is the latest world subject rankings in Education. For the first time, we are among the world's top 10, according to the QS 2018 subject rankings. We emerged 9th in the world in Education, up from the 13th position last year. As far as Asia is concerned, we remain second. As I shared with my colleagues and students, the latest rankings come as excellent news to the University community as we approach our 25th anniversary.

Before closing, may I once again thank you for your unfailing support to the University, without which we would not be where we are today. May I also invite all of you to join me in extending congratulations to the five Honorary Fellows. Thank you very much!