

## CITATION FOR

Ms Pau Chun-ping,  
Honorary Fellow

Mr Chairman of the Council,

Ms Pau Chun-ping, Chairperson of the Fung Sun Kwan Chinese Arts Foundation (the Foundation), is highly acclaimed for practising Confucian teachings: setting her heart on the *Way* (道), holding on to virtue, being devoted to benevolence, and having a strong passion for the six arts – the disciplines in ancient China that formed a person's holistic development. She holds altruism and empathy close to her heart, and has dedicated herself to education and research in Chinese classical studies. Through these virtues she has promoted education, cultivating talent for the benefit of the wider community. Her noble aspirations are both commendable and exemplary.

In the pursuit of the *Way*, Ms Pau – alongside her beloved late husband Mr Fung Sun-kwan – has since 2007 made tireless efforts to foster traditional culture, advance education in mainland China, and advocate the importance of righteousness and benevolence.

In holding on to virtue, she and her husband have over many years advocated moral education through the Chinese Confucian Classics Education Project, which promotes the 10 Confucian virtues of benevolence, righteousness, propriety, wisdom, trustworthiness, loyalty, filial piety, integrity, perseverance and harmony. The project has culminated in a series of international symposiums in nine cities nationwide, with the couple's presiding over each and every one of them. These efforts eventually led to the expansion of the network to 38 classical study centres at institutions across the country, benefitting over 10,000 students and inspiring many more.

Ms Pau's determination to safeguard Chinese culture is unreserved. In 2010, a large collection of precious Qin dynasty bamboo and wooden slips was acquired and subsequently donated to Peking University, thanks to the Foundation's immense generosity. After more than a decade of meticulous restoration, Shanghai Ancient Books Publishing House released the *Peking University Collection of Qin Bamboo Slips* at the end of May this year. This remarkable contribution to preserving the nation's cultural treasure has touched the hearts of many people.

Ms Pau's benevolence can be attested by her staunch support and care for education. Locally, a range of scholarships were set up as early as 2006 at various tertiary institutions, motivating students to strive for excellence. In 2015, the Foundation donated to The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2015 to establish the Centre for Chinese Classical Learning – a visionary initiative aiming to continue the legacy of the sages and cultivate pillars of society committed to the world's betterment.

The following year, the Foundation supported the Centre for Religious and Spirituality Education at The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK), enabling life education initiatives to nurture passionate and caring teachers, for the benefit of the country and its people.

Devoted to benevolence again, Ms Pau and her late husband promoted the nurturing of talent by donating to the China Education Development Foundation two years later, establishing the Confucius Chinese Classics Fund. In September of the same year, they founded the Institute for Chinese Classics Studies at Tsinghua University – the first institute of its kind in China dedicated to cultivating talent in the field. The following year, the Higher Research Institute of Yuelu Academy was established at Hunan University.

Ms Pau's passion for the six arts is best demonstrated by the establishment of the Centre for Chinese Classical Education at EdUHK in 2021, thanks to the Confucius Chinese Classics Fund. Its mission is to launch Chinese culture projects in the Greater Bay Area, with a view to maximising the depth and breadth of their educational impact in the region. The Fund went further in supporting the launch of the Five Disciplines project at EdUHK, which promotes among students the importance of Chinese classics, historical figures, etiquette, martial arts and calligraphy.

With the objective of reviving moral virtues, the Four Virtues and Eight Excellent Deeds Award was established the same year, promoting propriety, righteousness, integrity, shame, filial piety, brotherly love, loyalty and trustworthiness. There was also the Martial Arts Campus project earlier this year, under the umbrella of the Five Disciplines project, which attracted over 50 local primary and secondary schools. Its focus was on cultivating students' resilience, physical fitness and their holistic development.

To promote moral education, various scholarships have been established, including the Chinese Confucian Classics Scholarship, the Fung Sun-kwan Moral Excellence Award, and the National Education Scholarship. Sponsorship has also gone to the World Celebration Ceremony of Confucius's Birthday, honouring the Great Master - Confucius. All along, Ms Pau has been committed to promoting the revival of the Chinese nation, supporting education and cultivating talent, while upholding benevolence and righteousness.

Mr Chairman, the classics teach us that of all attributes, benevolence holds the greatest treasure. In recognition of Ms Pau's dedicated noble acts over the years, on behalf of The Education University of Hong Kong, I present Ms Pau Chun-ping to you for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

## **CITATION FOR**

**Mr Dieter Yih, JP**  
**Honorary Fellow**

Mr Chairman of the Council,

As a lawyer, Mr Dieter Yih is a prominent figure, renowned for his pioneering spirit, unswerving professionalism and quest for excellence. While he has earned a reputation for unrivalled expertise in his area of practice, and has established a highly regarded law firm in a field traditionally dominated by the international giants, he has always sought to do more, not just for himself but for others.

Mr Yih's career could easily have gone in a completely different direction. If his parents had had their way, he would have become a doctor after moving from Hong Kong to England for his A-level studies. But he had other ideas in mind, managing to steer his interviewers to reject his application to study medicine due, allegedly, to his propensity to faint at the sight of blood. Instead, he opted for law, as he believed it would enhance his capability for reasoning. Looking back after over three decades of accomplishments in the field, Mr Yih clearly made the right decision by staying true to his intuition.

Having conquered the highly demanding path towards qualification in England, Mr Yih joined a leading local practice on returning to Hong Kong in the late 1980s and also qualified to practise here. His fascination with commerce led him to develop a profound interest in business and private equity. He went on to qualify in Australia and Singapore and focused on corporate law, particularly in areas such as capital markets, corporate finance, and mergers and acquisitions. In a matter of just six years, he co-founded Hong Kong's first independent boutique corporate and securities law firm, breaking the tradition of legal representation in these areas being predominately provided by large international firms.

Despite the heavy responsibilities he has taken on as a partner of a law firm, Mr Yih has constantly lent his expertise and dedicated his time to serving the community, having accepted appointments to numerous important advisory and governance positions in the financial, legal and education sectors.

In 2005, Mr Yih became a lay member of an Investigation Panel of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, where he eventually served as Convenor, helping to safeguard the rigorous standards of the accounting profession. In 2016, he became involved in the regulation and supervision of Hong Kong's financial markets, as a member of both the Hong Kong Stock Exchange Listing and GEM Listing committees. Currently, he is non-executive director of the Securities and Futures Commission and a member of its Takeovers and Mergers Panel. He is also Chairman of the Financial Dispute Resolution Centre, which provides accessible mediation and arbitration services for financial institutions and their customers.

Until 2016, Mr Yih had also served on the Council of the Law Society of Hong Kong for 13 years, including a term as President, where he put forth changes important to the profession, ranging from limited liability partnerships and higher rights of audience for solicitors to the future direction of legal education and training. He was subsequently appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service, which advises the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on pay and conditions for judges and judicial officers. He was also nominated by the Law Society to sit as a member of the Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training – an appointment which he holds today.

A strong believer in the benefits of education, Mr Yih established a scholarship scheme in the late 1990s and personally sponsored students to study law at his alma mater, King's College London, so that these students could return to Hong Kong and contribute to its legal community. He was later appointed Chairman of the King's College London Hong Kong Foundation, a role for which he was awarded a fellowship.

His ties with EdUHK started in 2012, when the then Institute was embarking on the university title journey. As a Council Member and then Deputy Chairman of the Council, he lent his wise counsel and legal expertise, especially in the upholding of university governance and the promotion of equal opportunities. He also chaired the Staffing Committee, advising the Council on new policies and revised procedures relating to staff recruitment, training and development, including the introduction of the new enhanced track for those who demonstrate

teaching excellence. During his decade-long service at the Council, he was a staunch supporter of the University, ready to contribute on different fronts at all times.

From 2016 to 2022, Mr Yih was also a member of the Education Commission, a non-statutory body which advises the Government on the overall development of education. Currently, he is a member of both the University Grants Committee and the Quality Education Fund's Steering Committee, continuing with his service to the education sector. In these roles, he relishes the opportunity to help contribute to the advancement of young and future leaders, and shape and prepare them for the ever-changing environment.

Mr Yih was appointed a non-official Justice of the Peace in Hong Kong in 2012, and has been a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Guangdong Province Sub-committee since 2013.

Mr Chairman, Mr Yih is a distinguished member of the legal profession, who has demonstrated perseverance and commitment to excellence. He is dedicated not only to his profession, but also to the betterment of society, especially regarding enhancements to financial regulations and education. We at EdUHK are indebted to him for his invaluable contributions and unfailing support. On behalf of The Education University of Hong Kong, may I present Mr Yih to you for the award of Honorary Fellow.