Honorary Fellow Dr Dennis T L Sun

Citation written and delivered by Professor Cheng Pei-kai

Pro-Chancellor, Chairman of the Council and President:

Dr Dennis T L Sun was born in Shanghai in 1950 and moved to Hong Kong in 1962. He is Chairman of China-Hongkong Photo Products Holdings Ltd & Chairman and Managing Director of Fuji Photo Products Co Ltd and Deputy Chairman of the Hong Kong Management Association. A public-spirited man, he is also Co-chairman of the Campaign Committee of the Community Chest of Hong Kong, Court Member of City University of Hong Kong and Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Travel Agents. In 1999, in recognition of his success and his contributions to public welfare, the Hong Kong government conferred on him the Bronze Bauhinia Star, and in 2002 he was appointed as a Justice of the Peace.

Dr Sun's personal growth and career epitomise the economic development of Hong Kong. A classic example of a self-made man, he deserves the plaudits of society for inspiring the younger generation. When he first came to Hong Kong with his father, he was faced with the challenges of a new environment. He studied hard, aimed high, and quickly learned to be self-reliant and independent thinking. One story from his childhood stands out. He went fishing on a sampan with one of his secondary school teachers, and while he was waiting patiently for the fish to bite, it dawned on him that life was like fishing: you need time, attention, patience and perseverance if you want to succeed. This sudden enlightenment pointed him in the right direction, as people all over the world have testified since time immemorial. "Just as the movement of heaven is always powerful, so a man of exemplary character must always strive for excellence," says the I Ching. "Perseverance, dear my lord, keeps honour bright," says Shakespeare in Troilus and Cressida. Dr Sun understood this when he was still young, and his determination and hard work, so inspirational to the younger generation, have largely accounted for his later accomplishments.

He developed the company that he inherited from his father from a small agency for Fuji into a listed enterprise with a sales network covering the whole of China. The sustained development was due not only to his resolve and hard work, but also to his foresight as an entrepreneur and his willingness to "wait long enough for a big fish" despite whatever frustrations he met during his journey. And with the success of his business, he thought dutifully that, as a member of society, he had a role to play. Therefore, he has worked hard over the years to promote charity activities, a commitment he regards as his social responsibility. He is convinced that serving the public is beneficial to others as well as to himself because in addition to the immense gratification he derives from public service, he has also made many friends and acquired a large knowledge base.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, Mr Chairman of the Council and Mr President, in recognition of his successful career and his untiring and highly admirable involvement in charity activities, it is my pleasure to present Dr Dennis T L Sun to you for the conferment of the title of Honorary Fellow.